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No. 4543

SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1914.

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SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 21, 1914.

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LITERATURE

The Poetical Works of Wilfrid Blunt. A Complete Edition. 2 vols. (Macmillan & Co., 7s. 6d. net each vol.)

MR. WILFRID BLUNT, himself something of an enigma among men of his own generation, is a poet of many paradoxes. Here, to begin with, are nine hundred pages of verse by one who declares "I would not, if I could, be called a poet." Nor is there a suspicion of affectation in the disclaimer. The mood is that in which the doer in him rebels against the dreamer:—

If ought be worth the doing, I would do it.
My soul's ambition will not take excuse
To play the dial rather than the sun.

The occult activity of creative minds has been likened by another poet—one whose name is linked with Mr. Blunt's by an episode of uncommon kindness—to that "interparticled vibration" which gives to matter its fixity:—

From stones and poets you may know
Nothing so active is as that which least seems so.

We need not labour the theme by quoting a soldier's hackneyed saying that he would rather have written Gray's 'Elegy'—the quintessence of quietude—than have carried the heights of Quebec—the quintessence of movement. Still less can we attempt, in a self-contained modern instance, to settle the proportion of homage relatively due to Sir Ian Hamilton's dignified, yet daringly original elegy on Gordon and the most dashing of his military exploits. It is enough to say

that these have their bravery in common. For the artificial distinction between words and deeds, involving also the minor falsity of a distinction between manner and matter in literary style, has surely its final obliteration in the choice of literature, not art, nor even music, as the chosen medium of the revelation that has been man's greatest motive-power. If the Word be God, what can be more life-giving; and with whom, if not with the poet, lies the word?

It is no discredit, then, to Mr. Blunt to be here accounted a poet, and a fine one too. His travels in many and strange lands, on camel-back and on fleet barback, have taken him no such journey as this which he has accomplished on the feet of poetry. All his adventures culminate in his adventures among sonnet forms, where, on occasion, his excesses run him into sixteen or even twenty lines. Even his own proficiency as a bull-fighter merges into his entry of that sport in the familiar catalogue of men's follies—a catalogue which laments also that cities

Deck their streets for barren wars
Which have laid waste their youth.

When, in his light verse—light as a July breeze on Goodwood Down—the poet confesses

I would not for a million not have seen
Fred Archer finish upon Guinevere,

he perpetuates the fleetest of races, and the most expert of modern horsemen. Again the Bedouin Arabs, whom he learnt to love only after much living among them, are transported, by more than any mere dreamer, from their black tents to his pages:—

Children of Shem! Firstborn of Noah's race,
But still for ever children; at the door
Of Eden found, unconscious of disgrace,
And loitering on while all are gone before;
Too proud to dig; too careless to be poor;
Taking the gifts of God in thanklessness,
Not rendering aught, nor supplicating more,
Nor arguing with Him when He hides His face.
Yours is the rain and sunshine, and the way
Of an old wisdom by our world forgot,
The courage of a day which knew not death.
Well may we sons of Japhet in dismay
Pause in our vain mad fight for life and breath,
Beholding you. I bow and reason not.

In this sonnet, no less than in the familiar one on "Gibraltar" which no anthologist can resist, we have—what will be a surprise to some—just the sanity and sense of proportion which are essential to the poet's higher expression. No minor prejudices or preferences come to cheapen or qualify his passion. In the love poems we have the same effect—the abandonment of a man who counts all his losses as well as all his gains.

This elemental and alert sincerity, which takes two worlds into count in its most love-blinded and bewildered moments, is the mark of Mr. Blunt's poetry throughout. The direct note of George Peele's 'Farewell to Arms,' and of Raleigh's 'Verses before Death,' Mr. Blunt has resounded in the ears of a later generation of listeners; and it is no light praise of a living poet to associate his with their high names, and to feel guiltless of any incongruity. If in form his sonnets are sometimes Shakespearian, in thought and feeling they recall, now

Rousseau, but far oftener a more ancient and fitting prototype. Mr. Blunt is the St. Augustine of sonneteers. If in later poems, like a tired child who at last relinquishes some striving, he capitulates to Pleasure, it is not by this relaxed mood that he will be best remembered and praised. The penitent has in him a prevailing spokesman in such a sonnet as 'He would live a better life,' and such a poem as 'On the Way to Church'—a piece in which we are conscious of the superfluity of the final stanza. The candid 'Quatrains of Life' contain many passages of regret for the days of a guarded childhood and youth, made unhappy only by the knowledge of man's cruelty to man and beast; and in one of the sonnets he affirms:—

If I have since done evil in my life,
I was not born for evil. This I know.
My soul was a thing pure from sensual strife.
No vice of the blood foredoomed me to this woe.
I did not love corruption. Beauty, truth,
Justice, compassion, peace with God and man,
These were my laws, the instincts of my youth,
And hold me still, conceal it as I can.
I did not love corruption, nor do love.
I find it ill to hate and ill to grieve.
Nature designed me for a life above
The mere discordant dreams in which I live.
If I now go a beggar on the Earth,
I was a saint of Heaven by right of birth.

In the same mood he frankly tells his foolish Manon,

If I had chosen thee, thou shouldst have been
A virgin proud, untamed, immaculate....
Thou shouldst have been of soul commensurate
With thy fair body, brave and virtuous
And kind and just; and, if of poor estate,
At least an honest woman for my house.

Uncovenanted, too, in its candour is the sonnet in which Manon is assured—what perhaps no woman ever believes—that in her very derogations she is most dear to some of her adorers:—

I love not thy perfections. When I hear
Thy beauty blazoned, and the common tongue
Cheapening with vulgar praise a lip, an ear,
A cheek that I have prayed to:—when among
The loud world's gods my god is noised and sung,
Her wit applauded, even her taste, her dress,
Her each dear hidden marvel lightly flung
At the world's feet and stripped to nakedness—
Then I despise thy beauty utterly,
Crying, "Be these your gods, O Israel!"
And I remember that on such a day
I found thee with eyes bearded and cheeks all pale,
And lips that trembled to a voiceless cry,
And that thy bosom in my bosom lay.

"If all men were like you," says Stevenson's perceiving Baroness to Prince Otto, "it would be worth while to be a woman."

The moralist and the poet, in presence of these tragic affections, may find themselves, to their mutual surprise, very much in agreement—if the one yields a threat, then the other suffers a regret—the threat fulfilled. In the lines 'At a Funeral' Mr. Blunt claims the very ashes of her whom, living, he had loved:—

I loved her too, this woman who is dead.
Look in my face. I have a right to go
And see the place where you have made her bed
Among the snow.

The notable thing throughout is that there is no levity in this poet's treatment of even light love. He brings loyalty to the unlikely assignment to which loyalty, in all its odd service, was ever set: a handmaid in the very house of the disloyal.

In an anthology of Mr. Blunt's poetry, prepared years ago by George Wyndham

and Henley, the political poems had no representation. They are, of course, included in these volumes. Their suppression would not merely have maimed the monument of Mr. Blunt's literary life-work, but would also have shown a stupid insensibility to the changed conditions of the day, with its shifted hopes and hates, its larger tolerances, and its wider trust. So long ago as in 1882, Mr. Blunt's lack of sympathy with his country's policy of expansion (in Egypt and elsewhere) was confessed by himself in a manly prose statement which he desired to be "at least no impertinent aggravation of his fault." In the poetry now published 'The Wind and the Whirlwind' is likely to offend only those insensible to "fine frenzy" of feeling. The punishment originally awarded it was that of a neglect, natural enough, which did little justice to its literary quality; and its sometimes reported suppression at the hands of our Pro-Consuls strikes us as being hardly less beside the mark than, say, a prohibition by the Turk of the reading of the Prophet's lamentations in the Palestine of to-day.

We purposely leave ourselves no space to speak of the lines, now first published, 'To a Happy Warrior'—an elegy on the poet's friend and cousin, George Wyndham. Any extract would do violence to its sensitive organism. Like the man himself, it is compounded of realism and romance. If the author has succeeded in his happy and heroic plan—and we think he has—he proves that, after passing the limits of threescore years and ten, he has assuredly added the renown of an English elegiast to that of an English sonneteer.

THE AFTERMATH OF THE EIGHTEENTH CENTURY.

By entitling this volume 'The Period of the French Revolution' the editors of the latest volume of 'The Cambridge History of English Literature' have, perhaps a little inadvisedly, directed attention to the fact that neither in filiation of ideas nor in date do the essays of which it is composed correspond to that title. Apart from the admitted influence of everything on everything else, it would be, we think, difficult to show any purely literary influence of the French Revolution on English literature in Peacock's novels, for instance, or in the later Wordsworth. To a French student the Revolution in France is a true spiritual epoch, making all things new; to an English student of English literature it is from this point of view not an influence but an interesting result of the penetration of eighteenth- and seventeenth-century English ideas into a foreign medium. No doubt it influenced the matter of Burke or Wordsworth, but

merely as an accident; it neither explains nor accounts for anything essential in the literary history of many writers in this volume.

One is for a moment puzzled to find Wordsworth, who died in 1850, between Cowper and Crabbe, though Shelley and Keats are not dealt with, or Peacock, who died in 1866, while Scott has still to come; but further consideration only justifies the editorial selection, with the possible exception of Coleridge, who defies any attempt at classification—"an inspired idiot" as William Morris once called him, to the horror of a party of literary critics. If printers and publishers still used emblems, this volume should bear on its face the image of Janus, and if Janus should suggest the lineaments of Wordsworth so much the better. For Wordsworth was, first and foremost, an eighteenth-century poet whose Nature-love was founded on the school of Thomson, and whose solitude was not complete without a ruined hermitage in the distance, occupied by a professional hermit, probably on weekly wages. Of course, this was but one of his faces; the other turned towards the future of romantic poetry, and on this side his genius soared to the highest level of English verse. Prof. Legouis's essay on Wordsworth is one of the most memorable things in a volume which contains many notable aids to criticism; and principally for this, that it passes over nearly all the things that strike an English lover of his verse, and selects for comment features of his work quite unimportant to us. Rousseau tempered by Burke is too facile an explanation of Wordsworth: the causes which produced Rousseau, the causes which produced Burke, were to produce later the Wordsworth who wrote essential prose in verse; the poet Wordsworth was the child of Ossian and Percy and Spenser.

The eighteenth century was an age of prose—of great prose in great hands, nearly always of good prose, since those who wrote had usually something of importance to say, and most of them said it directly and simply. Burke stands alone in his time, but Godwin and Paine and Cobbett can hardly be surpassed as political pamphleteers; Southey has left us the best short biography in our language; Bentham supplied the philosophic basis of the Liberal party of the nineteenth century; Coleridge opened the way to modern literary criticism.

Compare this achievement with that of the poets of the time: Cowper and Crabbe are on the further side of Janus; Southey rarely rises beyond the lower slopes of Parnassus; Blake and Coleridge are in a class by themselves—at the highest among the glories of our literature; at the worst, pitiable. Burns is the direct child, partly of the romantic movement on its literary side, but still more of the revival of national feeling which a century of peace and comparative prosperity had brought about among the Scottish peasantry, and of the traditional verse which survived among them. The eighteenth century marked him only when he tried

to write English verse. Let us in passing note the singular case of a Scottish writer who can give us as free and candid a criticism of Burns's failures as of his successes.

Apart from the important studies on the writers we have named, the most novel and interesting chapters here are those which sweep up into their net the less important authors of the eighteenth century, leaving to the writers of the next volume a clear ground for the history of the romantic revival—that is, of modern English literature. Chief among these general studies are those of Prof. Saintsbury on the minor poets and on the prosody of the eighteenth century, and on the novel as it existed before Scott. The minor poets are unreadable, but some of the eighteenth-century novelists preserve a certain amount of popularity in the outer circles of the reading public, and 'The Scottish Chiefs,' 'Thaddeus of Warsaw,' 'The Children of the Abbey,' and half a dozen others like them, still line the barrows at country fairs; while Miss Edgeworth, Beckford, and even Maturin have found favour in the eyes of modern publishers. Of the Georgian dramatists only Goldsmith and Sheridan survive; the slumber of the others on their shelves is undisturbed except by the unsuccessful raids of a predatory dramatic author in search of situations. Yet forty years ago cheap reprints of the plays of this period were to be found on every bookstall.

More novel in their conception, and generally interesting, are the final chapters of the volume—on Children's Books, the Blue-Stockings, and Book-Production and Distribution. The last-named is in the hands of Mr. H. G. Aldis, a master of the subject, though one or two points in his essay will bear discussion. There is some evidence for the existence of circulating libraries in the early years of the Restoration, and there is much evidence of Scottish printing for London houses even before the end of the sixteenth century.

The chapter on Children's Books by Mr. F. J. Harvey Darton is specially good and thorough, though, as a matter of completeness, some mention should have been made of the later religious books of the "hell-fire" school written for children, some of which, such as Pike's 'Persuasive to Early Piety,' Todd's 'Lectures to Children,' and Furniss's 'A Sight of Hell,' were in use as Sunday books till quite recently. The revolutions in children's appreciation of authors are another theme worth study; experiment shows that a modern child of any age will hardly glance at Mrs. Sherwood or Miss Edgeworth while there is anything else to read, just as the ordinary schoolboy refuses Marryat or Fenimore Cooper.

Taken as a whole, the volume quite sustains the high reputation of the series, while the value and bulk of the bibliographical studies at the end increase as modern times are approached.

Mr. Chamberlain's Speeches. Edited by Charles W. Boyd. With an Introduction by the Right Hon. Austen Chamberlain. 2 vols. (Constable & Co., 15s. net.)

THE editor of this selection judiciously disarms criticism by pointing out that from the ample harvest of Mr. Chamberlain's speeches he could do no more than bring home a sheaf. Omissions were inevitable, but on the whole Mr. Boyd has adroitly surmounted the difficulty of compression. If we have a fault to find, it is that we get too much of the Tariff Reform campaign, during which Mr. Chamberlain employed the same argument, with modifications to suit the various halting-places of that pilgrimage; and too little of what may be called the early-middle period, that of his beneficent labours at the Board of Trade. Still, enthusiasts can always turn up his expositions of Bills in the files of 'Hansard,' and the general reader will probably be quite content with these gleanings from the oratory of forty years. Mr. Boyd's historical introductions are always to the point, and form a sure guide to the character of the speaker and the quality of his speeches.

A non-political paper like *The Athenæum* must find itself in a quandary when it comes to reckon up such an intense politician as Mr. Chamberlain. Still, we can heartily subscribe to his son's filial remark that the forces working in his heart were a passionate love of his country and a great faith in his countrymen here and beyond the seas. In that sense he was consistent throughout, and Mr. Austen Chamberlain fairly claims for him that, given his ideals, the inconsistencies of his career are matters of small moment. Mr. Chamberlain, no less than Peel, was always learning, only, unlike Peel, he was troubled with few of those perplexities which are unfolded in that statesman's letters to Sir James Graham. For several months after the defeat of the first Home Rule Bill he stood at fault, and Lord Randolph Churchill was the recipient of his hesitations. His speeches made at that time should be read with the correspondence to be found in Mr. Winston Churchill's biography as a commentary. But as a rule he pursued his undeviating march, none too respectful of Cabinet tradition or careful of the feelings of individuals. W. E. Forster and the Duke of Devonshire were among his victims, and public life was the poorer for their loss.

Yet Mr. Chamberlain, as these volumes remind us, did much for the small creditor, the merchant seaman, and the agricultural labourer at home; while on the constructive side of Imperial politics the Australian Commonwealth Act stands as a monument to his tactful firmness. He put new life into derelict Crown Colonies, where officials lived in mud-huts and communications barely existed. After the South African War he went to the Cape on a mission of conciliation, and addressed the Dutch in this fine appeal:—

"What are the qualities which we admire in you? Your patriotism, your courage,

your tenacity, your willingness to make sacrifices for what you believe to be right and true. Well, these are qualities which we desire to imitate, and which we believe we share."

Mr. Boyd appends the interesting note, taken from the shorthand report, that "Mr. Botha was observed to applaud this statement." Of the Tariff Reform movement it is enough to say that, as with Dickens's 'Edwin Drood' and 'Le Député d'Arcis' of Balzac, the author's work was left incomplete.

Mr. Chamberlain's speeches are very much in Pitt's State Paper style. They rely on argument, not on rhetoric; they drive home their application less by appeals to general principles—an unfortunate incursion into "natural rights" excepted—than by a marshalling of facts and statistics. Pitt, as Lecky has remarked, was fond of leading up to a Virgilian quotation; and Mr. Chamberlain, too, was given to ending on a verse of poetry, generally of a homely kind. His anecdotes, especially when he was addressing popular audiences, were more felicitous than his literary allusions. These—Mrs. Partington and the rest of them—read now with a curious triteness. But the charge of slipshod diction which Dr. Parr brought against Pitt certainly cannot be applied to Mr. Chamberlain. "The dog talks grammar," Dr. Parr complained of Pitt, "but it is an insidious masked battery under which he may better assail our idiom." Mr. Chamberlain not only talked grammar, but he also expressed himself with perfect correctness and invariable lucidity. If he oftentimes resorted to "the parting of the ways" and other clichés, it must be remembered that his working-class audiences would have missed them if they had been left out.

To Mr. Chamberlain, as his son happily remarks, speech was a form of action. "Mr. Chamberlain," Mr. Asquith observed with equal propriety, "kept as a rule closer to the ground [than Gladstone or Bright]; he rarely digressed, and he never lost his way." The man was greater than his utterances. Mr. Boyd cannot be expected to reproduce the slim form, the penetrating yet melodious voice, the deadly earnestness clothed by a perfect control of manner. We can only advise those who did not hear Mr. Chamberlain when he was most characteristic to peruse with care the speech in vol. ii. pp. 12 *et seq.*, in the course of which he charged heavily against Lord Weardale, then known as Mr. Philip Stanhope. An even more scathing castigation, that of an Irish member, does not appear, but it was confined to a phrase or two. If we search these volumes in vain for passages approaching Bright's "Angel of Death" speech or his description of a Quaker funeral, it is most interesting to be reminded when and where such phrases fell as "proprietors 'who neither toil nor spin,'" "What I have said, I have said," and "If you wish to prevent separation, you must put a tax on food."

ANCIENT EGYPT AND HER BOOKS.

IN the handy volume entitled 'A History of the Egyptian People' Dr. Budge has recorded the history of Egypt from the earliest times down to its absorption in the Turkish Empire in the first quarter of the sixteenth century. He has thus gone considerably beyond the scope of his longer work in eight volumes, which ended with the death of Cleopatra; and although the extension does not occupy more than a page or two, it will be useful in clarifying the ideas of the general reader. It is no light task to compress in this way the history of five or six millennia within the compass of some 250 pages; but Dr. Budge shows himself fully equal to it, and his narrative lacks nothing in interest. The main points in the extraordinarily dramatic history of the Nile Valley—to wit, the great advance of material culture in the Pyramid-building Age, the corresponding increase of prosperity and progress under the Twelfth Dynasty, the still mysterious eclipse of the Hyksos period and the glorious expulsion of the invaders, followed by the foreign conquests of the early kings of the Eighteenth Dynasty—are all well marked, and should give a clear picture even to one who here reads the story of Ancient Egypt for the first time. If any monotony be noticed in the long-drawn-out tragedy of decay under the priest-kings, and the successive conquests by the Ethiopians, Assyrians, Babylonians, Persians, Greeks, Romans, Arabs, and Turks, it is more due to the facts than to Dr. Budge's manner of telling them.

In his choice of material Dr. Budge is always moderate and nearly always judicious. He will have nothing to do with the new-fangled system of chronology introduced shibboleth fashion by the German Egyptologists, and declares his adhesion to the earlier system of Brugsch. The only concession he will make in this respect is that he thinks the beginning of the Eighteenth Dynasty must be brought down from 1700 B.C. to 1600 B.C. on the evidence of contemporary cuneiform texts, and his deep acquaintance with the subject makes it practically certain that he is right here. His views on Egyptian religion are nearly always clear and well founded, although his dictum that the Egyptians during the Dynastic Period believed "in an almighty and benevolent Creator called 'Pautti,'" as well as in the existence of "two everlasting powers, the one good, the other evil," would have against it the overwhelming authority of Sir Gaston Maspero. That he has kept his reading on the whole subject well up to date is shown by his assignment of an Aryan origin to the Mitannian kings with whom the Pharaohs of the New Empire frequently allied themselves, and by his recognition of the fact that nothing

A History of the Egyptian People. By E. A. Wallis Budge. (Dent & Sons, 3s. 6d. net.)
The Literature of the Ancient Egyptians (Same author, publishers, and price.)

like public or congregational worship existed in Egypt before Ptolemaic times.

Our sole criticism concerning this part of Dr. Budge's work is that it is not always consistent with his earlier utterances, and that he gives no explanation of, or excuse for, the discrepancy. In his longer history he admits that the green slate objects which form almost the only material for the earliest history of Egypt were shields, a theory which is borne out by the fact that with those first discovered were found large mace-heads, also bearing reliefs of warlike scenes, the mace and the shield being the two weapons of the predynastic or protodynastic Egyptians. In this volume he returns to the earlier guess that they were "palettes" used for making cosmetics. He offers no reason for this change of view; but it seems to be taken almost verbatim from the 'Ancient History of the Near East' of Mr. H. R. Hall, also a British Museum official, which is among the books that he here recommends for the perusal of any reader desiring further acquaintance with the subject. As we pointed out in our review of that work, Mr. Hall is probably mistaken in this matter, since the actual "palettes" with which he would identify the carved slates were not found at Abydos, as he says, and the material pounded in them was not antimony, but malachite, or some other salt of copper. Antimony, in fact, could not be treated in the way Mr. Hall suggests, and it is the fact that it does form an ingredient in the *kohl*, or eye-paint, used in the East at the present day, which doubtless led to the confusion. Is it chivalry or departmental *esprit de corps* on the part of Dr. Budge which leads him thus to adopt his subordinate's mistake?

Apart from this the book is admirably adapted for its purpose, well illustrated, and well got-up.

Dr. Budge's other work, 'The Literature of the Ancient Egyptians,' is a gallant attempt to make intelligible to the general public the few and scanty remains of Egyptian religious and imaginative writing which have come down to us. In the extracts he gives from the Pyramid Texts, here appearing, we think, for the first time in English, and from the 'Book of the Dead,' on which he is one of the chief authorities, we get a first-hand statement of the Egyptian's views on religious matters; while in stories like those of the Westcar Papyrus we have the kind of fairy story familiar to readers of the 'Arabian Nights.' Of those in the first category it is doubtful whether the uninstructed reader to whom these volumes are addressed will be able to make much; but their publication may stimulate his curiosity, and thus lead him to further study. The fairy tales are delightful, and lose nothing in the telling. Our only regret is that he did not see his way to include among them the story of the Predestined Prince, the Capture of Joppa, and the quarrel between Sequenen-Ra and the Hyksos king. Both books as they stand, however, are interesting as well as instructive.

Reminiscences of the South Seas. By John La Farge. (Grant Richards, 16s. net.)

SINCE Stevenson died we have met with no book which gave so good a notion of the fascination of "the enchanted isles of Vivien" as this posthumous volume by John La Farge, a well-known American painter and worker in stained glass. La Farge fell under the spell of the South Sea islands as completely as do most travellers with a sense of beauty and a yearning for romance, and he has given admirable expression to it in these pages. The impression produced by his picturesque and distinguished style is strongly reinforced by admirable reproductions of nearly fifty of the exquisite drawings which he made during his trip to Hawaii, Samoa, Tahiti, and Fiji. Altogether this is emphatically a book to buy and to enjoy at leisure. The only complaint to be made against it will come from those who have the recollection of a few weeks spent among the islands, and find these pages begetting in them an almost intolerable desire to go back again and loiter among the cocoa-palms and shady banana trees, where the unceasing song of the surf upon the reef is borne on the heavenly breath of the trade-wind, and men and women alike still fleet the time carelessly, as they did in the golden age.

La Farge sailed from San Francisco on this island trip in August, 1890, when the islands were slightly less europeanized than they are at the present day. He was deeply interested in the study of native customs and ways of thought. As a good example of his style we may quote a passage in which he comments upon the singular readiness with which the Samoans—and the remark applies with equal force to the majority of the Polynesian races—accepted the Biblical teaching of the missionaries, and took the Scriptures to their heart with a completeness that can only be paralleled, though with far different results, among Cromwell and his Puritan contemporaries:—

"And then the Bible—I am not speaking of the New Testament—is so near them; they read so often their own story in the life of Israel of many centuries back. They are not separated from a civilization of that form by such and so many changes as our ancestors' minds have passed through. Their habit of life must even be said to antedate the Biblical. They do not have to make excuses for the conduct of God's chosen people. They can take all as it is written. They need not suppose some error in the account of the witch of Endor. In such a valley, buried under trees, or behind that headland where the palms toss in the roar of the trades, dwells some woman, wiser and more powerful in the solitude and in the night than we judge her by day. She can tell what things are happening elsewhere; what things are likely to come. She brings in the dead by the hand. She tells of what the dead are now doing, of their wars and their struggles in the empty outside world. What she revealed some nights ago, to a chosen few who say they were present, is murmured about the villages, and makes a feature of conversation not unlike society news. I have listened at

night, in out-of-the-way places, among preachers and people of confirmed Bible piety, to the last reports from the spirit world; to the news of war there; to the tale of great fights which had occurred on such a day of the moon, when the battleground of the reef was strewn with the corpses of the dead already dead to us. And I remember hearing once how some spirit ruling over a part of our island had declined to enter into war because he had not been attacked, and his religious principles, which were Christian, confined him to the defensive. Perhaps all these things meant more to my good friends than they did to me. . . . At any rate, it kept the land peopled with fears. It makes the terror of the forest more vivid and more reasonable. . . . And I own that I have never seen a nature which at night assumed more mystery, a more threatening quiet. The vegetation never rests. The plants are always growing. The sighing of the palms so deceptively like rain; the glitter of the great leaves of the banana, striking one against the other, with a half metallic clink; the fall of dead branches; the sudden drop of the coco-nut or the bread-fruit; the perpetual draught, carrying indefinite sounds from the untrodden interior; the echo of the surf from the reef, against the high mountains; the splash of the water on the shore; the flight of the 'flying fox' in the branches; the ghostlike step of the bare-footed passer-by; the impossibility of the eye carrying far through angles of tropical foliage—all these things make the night not a cessation of impressions, but a new mystery."

The author, who should have appealed to Stevenson in his Vailima seclusion as a kindred spirit, gives us only a tantalizing glimpse of him and his intercourse with Mataafa, the ex-King of Samoa:—

"It is always difficult for those of us who have the cosmopolitan instinct to realize how fundamental are the views of the Britisher. Mr. Stevenson had been explaining to us a difficulty I could hardly appreciate, and that was the question of whether he should call on Mataafa or wait until Mataafa called on him. I know how that would be settled in England. No one would expect the Queen or the Prince of Wales to call first, even though they cannot have for themselves the sense of dignity and sacredness which must envelope Mataafa. The Queen is the head of the Church and Defender of the Faith; but she is not so by blood, whether there be a Church or not. It is this peculiar element of something sacred, as it were of the son of a demigod, the natural intermediary between this world and the next, which is gently latent in the original idea of the aristocracy of these people. Even to Roman Paula, the spiritual daughter of St. Jerome, it must have been something beyond our ken to be a descendant of, let us say, Agamemnon or Achilles, or other sons of demigods. In this state of mind Mr. Stevenson came in upon us during one of Mataafa's visits, and succumbed at once to the delicate courtesy of the great chief. He managed so prettily to express his knowledge of Stevenson's distinction, of his being a writer of stories, and a wish to know him limited by the difficulties of his position."

It is amusing, for those who remember Stevenson's own constant complaint that he was always at loggerheads with the police and other official persons by reason of his lack of "respectability," to find him calmly set down as the typical

"Britisher," hidebound by etiquettes and conventions! We suspect, however, that there was some misunderstanding of the position on La Farge's part, as a passage in a letter to Charles Baxter, dated December, 1889, shows clearly that Stevenson was acquainted with Mataafa at least a year before the date of the interview to which this extract refers.

In conclusion, we note that the recent turn of events gives a curious answer to a question asked by our author in discussing Samoan politics of twenty-four years ago. If the United States withdrew from the joint arrangement then existing, he says, "then, for the protection of German property, German forces could be landed in Samoa, the imperial flag be hoisted, and whoever would dare to haul it down?" It would have taken the most inspired of political prophets a long while to guess that the ultimate answer would be "New Zealand."

BOOKS PUBLISHED THIS WEEK

THEOLOGY.

Butler (H. Montagu), LIFT UP YOUR HEARTS, Second edition, 2/ net. Bowes & Bowes
Short sermons intended as "Words of Good Cheer" for the Holy Communion.

Clough (John E.), SOCIAL CHRISTIANITY IN THE ORIENT, 6/6. Macmillan
A study of the effects of the contact between Christianity and the religions of the East.

Cook (Stanley A.), THE STUDY OF RELIGIONS, 7/6 net. Black
A psychological and historical analysis of three typical attitudes towards religion—the purely religious, the ordinary rationalistic, and the critical or scientific.

Denison (Henry Philipps), VISIONS OF GOD, 5/ net. Robert Scott
A study by a Prebendary of Wells on the question of the interdependence of the Incarnation and the Fall.

Edgill (Mary), IDEALS AND REALITIES, 1/6 net. Wells Gardner
Some meditations on incidents recorded in the Scriptures, with their application to the lives of others. The Bishop of St. Albans has supplied the Introduction.

Findlater (John), PERFECT LOVE, 2/6 net. Leith, Leith Printing and Publishing Co.
A study of John Wesley's teaching on Christian idealism, indicating its relation to some currents of modern thought.

Horner (Gurney), THE UNIVERSAL POSTULATE, 3/6 net. Hayman, Christy & Lilly
An open letter to the Archbishop of Canterbury.

Jackson (George), IN A PREACHER'S STUDY, 3/6. Hodder & Stoughton
A collection of essays on theological subjects.

Lees (Rev. E.), DUTY AND PRIVILEGE, 1/ net. Skeffington
A series of addresses on 'The Seven Aspects of the Holy Communion.'

Miller (J. R.), PAUL'S MESSAGE FOR TO-DAY, 3/6. Hodder & Stoughton
A volume in the "Silent Times" Series.

Piggott (Rev. H. M.), THE CHRISTIAN'S BOUNDEN SERVICE, a Manual for "Them who come to the Lord's Supper," 1/ net. Heath & Cranton
The author supplies "a form of preparation for Holy Communion along Prayer-Book lines."

Pollock (Right Rev. Bertram), THE INCREASE OF THE EPISCOPATE, 6d. John Murray
The recast of a speech delivered by the Bishop of Norwich recommending caution in the subdivision of dioceses.

Taylor (Mrs. Howard), THOUGH WAR SHOULD RISE, 6d. net. China Inland Mission
A little book containing short essays for devotional reading.

Wicks (Henry J.), THE DOCTRINE OF GOD, 10/ net. Hunter & Longhurst
A critical study of the composition of the books of the Apocrypha arranged, as far as possible, in their chronological order.

LAW.

Jones (Charles), THE SOLICITOR'S CLERK, Part II., 2/6 net. Effingham Wilson
Sixth edition, revised and enlarged.

POETRY.

Book of Georgian Verse, chosen and edited with Notes by William Stanley Braithwaite, 5/ net. Duckworth

A reissue.

Book of Restoration Verse, chosen and edited with Notes by William Stanley Braithwaite, 6/ net. Duckworth
A reissue.

Booth (William), THE SONGS OF A YEAR, 6d. net. Nutt

A booklet of verses, including topical, humorous, and personal pieces. They are reprinted from *The Liverpool Courier*, *The Daily Dispatch*, and other papers.

Call (The) of the Open, A LITTLE ANTHOLOGY OF CONTEMPORARY AND OTHER VERSE, compiled by Leonard Stowell, 2/6 net. Black

This volume includes extracts from the work of many English twentieth-century writers, such as Mr. W. S. Blunt, Mr. Robert Service, and Mr. Laurence Housman, as well as translations from contemporary Continental writers. It is illustrated in colour.

Chamberlain (Lawrence J.), A METRICAL VERSION OF LORD LYTTON'S 'LADY OF LYONS,' 1/6 net. Heath & Cranton

The book is illustrated by Mr. F. Meyerheim.

College Chaucer (The), edited by Henry Noble MacCracken, 6/6 net. Milford

This volume contains "as much of Chaucer as can be given in a single volume," and is edited with a few notes and a full Glossary. The latter has been prepared with the collaboration of Mr. Thomas Goddard Wright.

Giddings (Franklin Henry), PAGAN POEMS, 4/6 net. Macmillan

A book of verse with a title chosen to emphasize the inextinguishable "faith in the possibilities of life."

Goldring (Maude), THE COUNTRY OF THE YOUNG, 2/6 net. Elkin Mathews

The author celebrates the "Merrie England" which was haunted by fairies, and sings of the beauties of the country-side. Several of her pieces are written in the form of a dialogue.

Hardy (Thomas), SATIRES OF CIRCUMSTANCE, Lyrics and Reveries, with Miscellaneous Pieces, 4/6 net. Macmillan

The volume includes a piece entitled 'The Convergence of the Twain' on the loss of the Titanic, 'God's Funeral,' 'The Satin Shoes,' and 'Poems of 1912-13.'

Holden (E. M.), A SONG OF BIRTH AND DEATH, 1/ net. Fiffeld

A collection of poems including 'To the Muse,' reprinted from *The Poetry Review*, and the long 'Song of Birth and Death.'

Nature's Moods, A LITTLE ANTHOLOGY OF VERSE, compiled by Leonard Stowell, 2/6 net. Black

Some modern English and Continental writers are represented in this anthology. The book is illustrated with coloured plates.

Noyes (Alfred), A TALE OF OLD JAPAN, 2/ net. Blackwood

This is reprinted from vol. ii. of Mr. Noyes's 'Collected Poems.' It contains an Introduction in memory of Samuel Coleridge Taylor, and coloured illustrations by Miss Kate Riches.

BIBLIOGRAPHY.

Reader's Index, 1d. Stanley Russell
The bi-monthly magazine of the Croydon Public Libraries.

Russell Sage Foundation Library, Bulletin. New York, the Library
The Librarian's Report.

PHILOSOPHY.

Blair (David), THE MASTER-KEY, a New Philosophy, 3/6 net. Wimbeldon, Ashrama Agency

The author arranges his subject under the headings 'Man's Place in the Universe,' 'Life on Nature,' 'Noume-oidal Life,' 'Religion,' 'European Theism,' and 'Ascetic Philosophies.'

Mach (Ernst), THE ANALYSIS OF SENSATIONS AND THE RELATION OF THE PHYSICAL TO THE PSYCHICAL, 6/6 net. Open Court Pub. Co.

Miss C. M. Williams's translation from the first German edition appeared in 1897. Mr. Sydney Waterlow has revised and supplemented it from the fifth German edition.

Proceedings of the Aristotelian Society, 10/6 net. Williams & Norgate

The papers read before the Society during the Thirty-Fifth Session, 1913-14, together with an abstract of the minutes of the proceedings for the session and the Report of the Executive Committee.

Snailth (John), THE PHILOSOPHY OF SPIRIT, 12/ net. Hodder & Stoughton

Beginning with the immemorial question, "What is Truth?" the author expounds his own philosophy, and discusses the philosophical character of the Scriptures.

HISTORY AND BIOGRAPHY.

Betham-Edwards (M.), UNDER THE GERMAN BAN IN ALSACE AND LORRAINE, 1/ net. Dent

A study of the country and temperament of the "Lost Provinces," and of their bitter relations with the Prussian conqueror.

De Morgan (Augustus), ESSAYS ON THE LIFE AND WORK OF NEWTON, 5/ net. Open Court Publishing Co.

These essays are edited, with Preface, notes, Appendixes, and Index, by Mr. Philip E. B. Jourdain.

Great Peace Maker (A), 10/ net. Heinemann

The diary of James Gallatin, secretary to Albert Gallatin, the negotiator of the Treaty of Ghent, edited by Count Gallatin, and with an Introduction by Viscount Bryce.

Haggard (Lieut.-Col. Andrew C. P.), WOMEN OF THE REVOLUTIONARY ERA, 16/ net. Stanley Paul

A sequel to the author's 'Remarkable Women of France,' which ended at the year 1748, and the conclusion of the Peace of Aix-la-Chapelle.

Lescarbot (Marc), THE HISTORY OF NEW FRANCE, Vol. III. Toronto, Champlain Society

A translation, with notes and Appendixes by Prof. W. L. Grant, and an Introduction by Mr. H. P. Biggar.

Parker (Eric), ETON IN THE 'EIGHTIES, 7/6 net. Smith & Elder

A description of Eton College, its daily life, special events, and individual customs, with some reminiscences of its masters and inmates in the eighties.

Shakespeare (L. W.), HISTORY OF UPPER ASSAM, UPPER BURMA, AND NORTH-EASTERN FRONTIER, 10/ net. Macmillan

The author is colonel of the 2nd Goorkhas, and has collected his material from all available sources during his service in India. The text is illustrated, and maps and an Index are included.

Vincent (Leon H.), DANDIES AND MEN OF LETTERS, 10/6 net. Duckworth

The volume includes essays on 'The Celebrated Mr. Brummell,' 'A Successful Bachelor (Henry Crabb Robinson),' Samuel Rogers, Thomas Love Peacock, and others.

White (Maude Valérie), FRIENDS AND MEMORIES, 12/6 net. Arnold

This memoir describes the author's student days in Heidelberg and Paris, and her subsequent friendships with many notable men and women.

GEOGRAPHY AND TRAVEL.

Tremlett (Mrs. Horace), WITH THE TIN GODS, 12/6 net. Lane

An account of a woman's journey through Nigeria.

SPORTS AND PASTIMES.

Teversham (Col. R. K.), THE SECOND PLAYER IN THE CHESS OPENINGS, 2/ net. Heath & Cranton

This little book on chess is intended "to furnish the beginner, when second player, with a suitable line of defence to each of the first player's numerous attacks."

LITERARY CRITICISM.

Faguet (Emile), BALZAC, 6/ net. Constable

This life and appreciation of Balzac has been translated by Mr. Wilfrid Thorley, who supplies a few foot-notes.

Faguet (Emile), FLAUBERT, 6/ net. Constable

Mrs. R. L. Devonshire is the translator of this work.

Sommer (H. Oskar), THE STRUCTURE OF LE LIVRE D'ARTUS AND ITS FUNCTION IN THE EVOLUTION OF THE ARTHURIAN PROSE-ROMANCES, 3/ net. Hachette

An article which was intended for *Romania*, but is now published separately in a revised and expanded form.

Thompson (Prof. E. N. S.), ESSAYS ON MILTON, 6/ net. Milford, for Yale University Press

Essays intended as an introduction to a first serious study of the poetry and prose of Milton.

WAR PUBLICATIONS.

Ashton (Henry Allen), ONE CLEAR CALL, 1d.
Voluntary Publishing Association
A review of the war and its causes, and an explanation of the great need for recruits.

Barclay (Sir Thomas), LAW AND USAGE OF WAR, 5/ net.
Constable
A treatise on the law and usage of land and maritime warfare and the Prize Acts.

Can Germany Win? THE RESOURCES AND ASPIRATIONS OF ITS PEOPLE, by an American, 1/ net.
Pearson

The author feels that the British public do not yet realize the full strength of German arms, and that if England is to win she must rely on her own resources, and not those of her Allies.

Dawbarn (C. Y. C.), SOME CONSIDERATIONS SUGGESTED BY THE PRESENT WAR.
Liverpool, D. Marples

An address read before the Liverpool Philomathic Society.

French Lessons for Soldiers: THE ADVENTURES OF CORPORAL ATKINS, 3d.
'Country Life' Office

Some useful phrases for soldiers going to the front, with a Vocabulary, and parallel columns of the English, correct French spelling, and correct French pronunciation.

Fursdon (F. R. M.), HOW TO SPEAK FRENCH, 4d. net.
Simpkin & Marshall

Ten practical lessons in French phrases for the use of soldiers going to the front.

Gardner (Alice), OUR OUTLOOK AS CHANGED BY THE WAR, 2d.
Cambridge, Heffer
An address delivered at Newnham College on October 25th.

Harrison (Austin), THE KAISER'S WAR, cloth, 2/6 net; paper, 2/ net.
Allen & Unwin

Six of the chapters are reproduced, with additions, from *The English Review*. Mr. Frederic Harrison contributes the Introduction.

Jane (L. Cecil), THE NATIONS AT WAR, 2/6 net.
Dent

A forecast of the political and moral results of the great European war now raging, with a most optimistic view of the future.

Johnston-Smith (Frederick James), THE UNION JACK, 6d.
Portsmouth, Holbrook & Son

A booklet dealing with the history of the construction of the Union Jack, with the object of promoting "patriotism, brotherhood, and loyalty." Twelve lyrics are added.

Papers for War Time:—No. 5. THE DECISIVE HOUR: IS IT LOST? by J. H. Oldham; No. 6. ACTIVE SERVICE: THE SHARE OF THE NON-COMBATANT, by W. R. Maltby, 2d. each.
Milford

The former paper deals with the present situation on the Foreign Missionary Field, and the latter with the non-combatant's duty to serve the State.

Peddle (J. Taylor), BRITISH INDUSTRY AND THE WAR, 1/ net.
Longmans

This book is published in the interests of the Institute of Industry and Commerce. It includes an article by Lord Aberconway on 'The Capture of German Trade,' and the speeches delivered at the inaugural meeting of the Institute last month.

Stanford's War Map, No. 9: THE SEAT OF WAR IN TURKEY, 5/

A coloured sheet showing details from the Strait of Otranto to the Caspian Sea in the North, and Tripoli to the Persian Gulf in the South.

Trois Mois de Guerre, 25c.
Paris, Berger-Levrault

A pamphlet containing a résumé of the efforts of the Allied Armies and their opponents from August to October.

Wheeler (Harold F. B.), THE LIFE OF SIR JOHN FRENCH, 2d.
Aldine Publishing Co.
A popular account of the career of General French. The narrative ends with a description of the battle of the Aisne.

ECONOMICS.

Brown (W. Jethro), THE PREVENTION AND CONTROL OF MONOPOLIES, 6/ net.
John Murray
A discussion of possible remedies for the evils of monopolies.

SOCIOLOGY.

Questions of Public Policy, 5/ net.
Milford, for Yale University Press
A series of addresses delivered in the Page Lecture Series at Yale University by Jeremiah W. Jenks, A. Pratt Andrews, Emory R. Johnson, and Willard V. King.

FICTION.

Angelo (Florence), THE GREATNESS OF JOHN, 6/ net.
Long

This story gives a picture of British military and civil society in India.

Barclay (H. M.), LIGHT FROM ASIA, 3/6 net.
Heath & Cranton

The tale of an Englishman who embraced Buddhism, and so was separated from the girl he loved. While he was being initiated as a Buddhist priest the truth came to him that Christ, not Buddha, is the "Light of Asia," and eventually he returned to his betrothed.

Cartin (Hugh), THE GRAND ASSIZE, 3/6 net.
Heinemann

This is the story of a judge and various prisoners who were brought before him for trial. He seeks to make them rise from their dead selves, instead of condemning them. It is in reality a parable dealing with the brotherhood of the righteous with those who have been found out.

Drummond (Hamilton), LITTLE MADAME CLAUDE, 6/ net.
Stanley Paul

An historical romance of the time of King Louis XII. dealing with the adventures which befell M. Charles de Vibert and Mlle. de Cartaret, and the intrigues of Anne of Brittany.

Ervine (St. John G.), MRS. MARTIN'S MAN, 6/ net.
Maunsell

A first novel by the author of the plays 'Mixed Marriages' and 'The Magnanimous Lover.'

Prior (James), A WALKING GENTLEMAN, 7d. net.
Nelson

A cheap edition.
Ramsey (Olivia), THE SECRET CALLING, 6/ net.
Long

A love-story dealing with the fortunes of two girls. One of them falls in love with an artist, and the other rejects a brilliant marriage arranged for her, but both are finally won by the men who love them.

Watts (Mary), RISE OF JENNIE CUSHING, 6/ net.
Macmillan

See p. 533.

Wayfarer's Library: THE CRICKET ON THE HEARTH AND A CHRISTMAS CAROL, by Charles Dickens; THE MASTER BEGGARS OF BELGIUM, by L. Cope Cornford; A LADDER OF SWORDS, by Sir Gilbert Parker; THE GRANDCHILDREN OF THE GHETTO, by Israel Zangwill, 1/ net.
Dent

Cheap reprints.
White (Percy), CAIRO, 6/ net.
Constable

See p. 532.

REVIEWS AND MAGAZINES.

American Oxonian, 6/ per annum.
Indiana, Bloomington

Includes articles on 'The Lack of Competition for the Rhodes Scholarships' and 'Rhodes Scholars and the War.'

Berks, Bucks, and Oxon Archæological Journal, OCTOBER, 1/6 net.
Reading, Slaughter

This number contains articles on several Berkshire churches, and 'The History of the Parish of Beenharn,' by Miss Mary Sharp.

Classical Review, NOVEMBER, 1/ net.
John Murray
Includes notes on the text of Plutarch on the Pythian oracles, the text of Marcus Aurelius, the Homeric Hymns, Legions and Auxilia, &c.

Ecclesiastical Review, NOVEMBER, 15/ per annum.
Washbourne

Some of the features of this issue are 'Symbolism in Religious Teaching,' by the Rev. William Leen; 'Eleven Years after the Motu Proprio on Church Music,' by the Rev. L. Bonvin; and 'Sacramental Satisfaction,' by the Rev. Joseph MacCarthy.

Irish Review, 6d.
Dublin, Irish Review Publishing Co.

This number includes a 'Manifesto to the Irish Volunteers,' a story by Lord Dunsany, an article on 'Gaelic Literature' by P. H. Pease, and some poetry.

United Empire, NOVEMBER, 1/ net.
Pitman
Some of the features in this issue are 'Our "Contemptible Little Army,"' by Mr. Ellis M. Cook; 'The Dominions and the Naval War: an Autonomist View,' by Mr. Richard Jebb; and 'The Campaign in Central Europe,' by Mr. A. Wyatt Tilby.

United Service Magazine, NOVEMBER, 2/ net.
Clowes
'The Soldier Sikh: his Awakening,' by Saint Nihal Singh; 'Military Reprisals,' by Col. R. H. Mackenzie; and 'Boat Actions and River Fights,' by Commander E. Hamilton Currey, are features of this number.

GENERAL.

Cust (Sybil), QUEEN ELIZABETH'S GENTLEWOMAN, AND OTHER SKETCHES, 5/ net.
Smith & Elder

A volume of miscellaneous essays on subjects ranging from Queen Elizabeth to a dormouse.

Daily Mail Year-Book (The) for 1915, edited by David Williamson, 6d. net.

Associated Newspapers
The fifteenth year of issue. A special section is devoted to the war and things connected with it.

Emery (Lucillus A.), CONCERNING JUSTICE, 6/ net.
Milford, for Yale University Press

Being one of the Storrs Lectures delivered by Judge Emery at Yale University.

Facts for Patriots, 3d. net.
National Food Reform Association

A booklet on the value of certain foods, with some recipes.

Gales (R. L.), VANISHED COUNTRY FOLK, AND OTHER STUDIES IN ARCADY, 5/ net.
Simpkin & Marshall

A book of essays on various subjects from 'The Christianity of Cardinal Newman' to 'Lobster Catchers and Lobster Eaters.'

Jeffrey (R. E.), PRACTICAL PUBLIC SPEAKING FOR PLATFORM AND PULPIT, 3/6 net.
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Villars (Abbé N. de Montfaucon de), COMTE DE GABALIS, 7/6 net.
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A new English rendering of the Abbé de Villars's masterpiece, with commentary and annotations.

SCIENCE.

Bean (W. J.), TREES AND SHRUBS HARDY IN THE BRITISH ISLES, 2 vols., 42/ net.
John Murray

A description and examination of the trees and shrubs, hardy and cultivated, in the British Isles, with illustrations and a Bibliography.

Georgia (Ada E.), A MANUAL OF WEEDS, 8/6 net.
Macmillan

A book describing "all the most pernicious and troublesome plants" of Canada and the United States, and suggesting means of controlling them. It is illustrated with nearly four hundred drawings by Mr. F. Schuyler Mathews.

Paterson (G. W. Lummis), ELECTRIC MINE SIGNALING INSTALLATIONS, 4/6 net.
Constable

A practical treatise on the fitting-up and maintenance of electrical signalling apparatus in mines.

Talbot (Frederick A.), THE OIL CONQUEST OF THE WORLD, 6/ net.
Heinemann

An account of the oil industry, written for the "average reader" rather than the technical student. It is illustrated with numerous photographs.

FINE ARTS.

Artist's Sketch-Book Series: HARROW, by Walter M. Keesey; WINDSOR AND ETON, by Fred Richards; NEWCASTLE-UPON-TYNE, by Robert J. S. Bertram, 1/ net each.
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Each volume contains reproductions in facsimile of twenty-four pencil drawings.

Bedford (Herbert), THE HEROINES OF GEORGE MEREDITH, 15/ net.
Hodder & Stoughton

The book contains twenty miniatures in colour. The letterpress describes the characters of Meredith's heroines and his "allegiance to feminism."

Cornill (Carl Heinrich), THE CULTURE OF ANCIENT ISRAEL, 6/ net.
Open Court Publishing Co.

Five essays, of which two are translated from the German by Miss Lydia G. Robinson, two by Mr. W. H. Carruth, and one by Mr. A. H. Gunlogsen.

Tennyson (Alfred, Lord), IDYLS OF THE KING, 6/ net.
Hodder & Stoughton

An edition with coloured illustrations by Miss Eleanor Fortescue Brickdale.

FICTION.

SOCIAL STUDIES.

Sinister Street. By Compton Mackenzie.
Vol. II. (Martin Secker, 6s.)

ANOTHER six hundred pages concerning Michael Fane! We will pay Mr. Mackenzie the compliment of believing he could have conveyed in half the number of pages all that is essential to the understanding of the two phases of his hero's life here treated. We can also affirm that there are few pages which do not carry the reader on with fresh zest. Book III. is a vivid presentment of Oxford life, though we are glad to know that, detailed as it is, it is not a complete picture. The hero is now more than ever the young man cursed with the knowledge that all possible precautions have been made against its ever becoming necessary for him to earn his own living. Occasionally, he is vaguely conscious of a desire to be something more than a consumer all his life; more often he is merely depressed by the futility of things as he sees them. He takes part with relish in drunken orgies, accompanied by a burst of destructiveness which would have been an "outrage" if carried out by a Suffragette or a German, but which many may consider creditable in his case; for at the bidding of his proctor he cheerfully provides the money for the wages of those who have to repair the damage. Never does he reflect that his recurring satiety is obtained at the cost of many others who have no such chances. His habit of Oxford attitudinizing is cleverly conveyed in one of the author's comments: he "consoled himself for the absence of subtlety or cleverness in such an answer by the fact that, at least, it was a direct statement of what he thought."

Once during his 'Varsity career he is shocked by the thought that he may have some direct responsibility for the death of his mother's friend, who had looked to him for sympathy in his failure to woo his sister.

In Book IV., entitled 'Romantic Education,' Mr. Mackenzie secures a striking contrast by plunging his hero into the nether world of London. "Down" from Oxford, and finding himself "at a loose end" common to this type of man, he turns into a music-hall, and there learns that the girl he had made love to six years before has become a prostitute. Infatuated with the power of his personality, he conceives the idea that he can save her by marrying her, thus securing the opportunity to make a bigger fool of himself than ever.

Throughout the two Books which compose this volume there are many flashes of intuition as to the contemporary leniency towards hypocrisy, but we doubt whether the author meant to make his hero quite so criminal a fool in his efforts to help his fellows as he will appear to those who have to combat the misspent efforts of such people.

The hero's friend is, on occasion, too obviously used as a stalking-horse to draw forth clever disquisition, and so has to appear more foolish than he really is.

Our grasp of one character at least (the hero's mother) is strengthened in this second volume:—

"Dearest boy, I'm on the committee of a society for the abatement of London street noises."

"So deeply occupied with reform," he said, patting her hand.

"One must do something," she smiled.

We thank Mr. Mackenzie for that. So far as his hero is concerned, we cannot sum him up any better than we did in reviewing the first volume:—

"His failing is the lack of a guiding principle sufficiently strong to counteract the relatively cheap allurements of life."

If he was, as is suggested, received into the Roman Catholic priesthood, that mighty organization may have converted a "waster" into a useful citizen. If so, it was an achievement more notable than any set down yet by Mr. Mackenzie.

If this delineation brings home to any their responsibility for imbuing our enemies with the idea that we are a decadent race, unworthy of our Christian ideals, then Mr. Mackenzie will serve a moral as well as an artistic purpose. We do not, however, expect so much from it. The author, with scathing irony, depicts his hero as himself resenting "life given for the sake of thousands more unworthy living comfortably at home."

In the writing we admire most the author's wealth and appositeness in the choice of words. On the other hand, some sentences are in need of revision.

Tony Bellew. By Margaret Peterson.
(Melrose, 6s.)

'TONY BELLEW' is a distinctly interesting study, but we do not suppose that it will be fully appreciated except by those who have some personal knowledge of the theme treated—the influence of mixed blood, or, to use the well-known phrase, the touch of the "tar-brush."

The hero suffers from this unhappy influence: he is the son of a white man and a native girl, and is rescued by an English official from the death which the girl had brought upon herself and intended for him also. He is brought up by the official's wife as her own son; this is the last wish of her husband, who dies when the boy is only five years old. This is unfortunate, as the widow cannot find it in her to devote a mother's love to the luckless youth; indeed, she adopts an excessively stern attitude of conscientiousness, which develops into bitter hatred, revealed in its fullness when she tells the boy the truth about his birth at the moment when he is asking her consent to his engagement with an English girl.

The boy goes to India, to meet with further difficulties and find his own way out of them. Many will say that the author has chosen too easy a solution for these; but we are inclined to think that she has drawn her character truly.

Thracian Sea. By John Helston. (Eveleigh Nash, 6s.)

MR. HELSTON surmises in his Foreword that his "Socialist's study of the ideals and lives of, for the most part, middle-class people, may offend the susceptibilities of some." We fear this opinion will not be justified. The reason, as we see it, is contained in the author's artistry. He is not only able to perceive the blindness of the people he depicts, but he is also capable of setting it down so naturally as hardly to disturb their equanimity; at any rate, not sufficiently to create the mental discomfiture which must precede change. We ourselves still retain a doubt as to how nearly the author is himself affected by his instance of a window-cleaner whose own panes "escaped his notice altogether."

Can his apparent sympathy with a man who found contentment in relieving his fellows out of an income he did nothing to earn be all art? The book being written objectively, does the author expect that the majority of his readers will get further than a sentimental sympathy with his heroine? She is represented to be superior to the man she made her husband, but her small efforts to educate him were so superficial as to make her only success quite worthless. She asked no questions; rather she aided and abetted him in securing the money on which they were married, without any adequate return in service to his fellows. After marriage she joined him in gambling on the turf. True, her eyes were at last opened to the misery which is due to such sources of income.

But we willingly give Mr. Helston the benefit of the doubt. The public must be made to see the muddiness of the water which is drawn from the well of life before they will think about the pollution of the spring.

As to our own and others' enjoyment of the book there can be no question. All the imagery which the author's former work led us to expect is here added to a knowledge of sordid materialism which betokens a rare sense of proportion. The book is full of good characterization, and a genuine study of the social conscience of to-day.

The Island of Love and Death. By W. E. Bailey. (Eveleigh Nash, 6s.)

It is certainly true

That men may rise on stepping-stones
Of their dead selves to higher things,

but Mr. Bailey has strained the idea almost to breaking-point. It is doubtful if any stepping-stones would bridge the gulf between the hero's "dead self" and that to which he ascends. To a total lack of education, an intercourse from childhood with none but natives in Singapore and sailors in the drinking dens of that town, and a mind broken by fear, he joins physical weakness and deformity. Out of these unpromising materials the author produces a "perfect knight," a musician, poet, and thinker, to whom a highly cultured, well-born Englishwoman

is willing to join her life, despite the fact that he has murdered her first husband, whom she passionately loved. The author does all within the power of a clever writer to make circumstances give probability to his story, but if the hero had been handicapped a little less heavily, or if the murder had been omitted, the story would have gained more credence.

EGYPT AND AMERICA.

Cairo. By Percy White. (Constable & Co., 6s.)

MR. PERCY WHITE has written in a more serious vein than he usually employs, but he handles his 'Cairo' well. The episode of the Mecca and Medina Bank scandal has already been used as a separate story, but when once the author has ingeniously and somewhat arbitrarily arranged the connexion between that incident and the political and other intrigues, the double thread is deftly woven. His picture of cosmopolitan Cairene society, with its thirst for pleasure, its boredom, and its love of intrigue, is admirable, as is also the Eastern atmosphere: the essential corruption underlying the suavity of Oriental officialdom, the golden air and tourist-ridden monuments of Egypt, the incongruity of clanging electric cars in the main streets and the by-ways of two thousand years ago, the whirr of the luxurious limousine car and the hoarse shouts of the donkey-boys, the jingling spurs of the British cavalryman, and the unperturbed native. Mr. White has treated the difficult characters of Abdul Sayed, the Oxford-trained "Young Egyptian" leader, and the Englishwoman with marked success; either might so easily have become theatrical had they been handled with less restraint. Abdul Sayed's speech to the Young Egyptians at the beginning of the book contains some shrewd criticisms of the conservative character of British policy: "The English can imagine no other means of permanently ruling a people than by giving them votes."

We note a good deal of carelessness which might have been avoided: "araba" for *arabeeah*, "arbagi" for *arbaghi*, are not excusable by any process of transliteration. Intending to write *hetairistic*, the author gives us "heteristic" and in another place "hetaristic." Why does he admit such misspellings as "aluring"? Lastly, why call a man "Andrew Kepple" on one page, and "Colquhoun Kepple" throughout the rest of the book?

We feel bound to mention these details because Mr. White is addicted to lapses of this kind; they are irritating, and give a slipshod appearance to work that is otherwise commendable.

The Auction Block. By Rex Beach. (Hodder & Stoughton, 6s.)

'THE AUCTION BLOCK' has real power. It is a study of luxurious living in New York, and it shows the inner working of the rich man's insatiate thirst for pleasure, satisfied—or, rather, maintained—by the wildest extravagance in festivities, night

rioting, drink of the utmost variety and extent, and women who go more than half-way to meet the desires which alone can give them some joy (or at least excitement) as well as livelihood.

The story has as its chief thread the career of one particular girl who marries the son of a wealthy man, breaks him of his habit of drink, and stimulates him to work and become prosperous in spite of the poverty imposed upon him by his parents' wrath. Eventually reconciliation with the parents is effected; but it is the writer of the story who brings this to pass, rather than any genuine and natural development. Indeed, this chief thread has no real importance for the reader as compared with the picture given of a state of society appalling in its corruption. The society is that touched upon in 'The Jungle,' and it deserves study—nay, exacts it. We talk about civilization, progress, reform, and the like; but these are mere catchwords in the face of unlimited wealth and the unbounded raw appetites which it serves. Any book which exposes the problem of this world clearly and fearlessly is of value. 'The Jungle' did excellent service in this way. 'The Auction Block' does not rank so high, but it is a fine work, and we trust that it will reach a wide public.

Patrol of the Sun-Dance Trail. By Ralph Connor. (Hodder & Stoughton, 6s.)

RALPH CONNOR'S latest work will be appreciated by his admirers on both sides of the Atlantic, for it is thoroughly typical, and full of those simple qualities upon which his popularity is based. Direct, strenuous, entirely devoid of psychological complications, the story is of Western Canadian life, and includes some spirited pictures of the work of the men of that splendid force the Royal North-West Mounted Police, in the days when the wandering Indian tribes of the West were still a terror to the New World's pioneers. There is the accustomed element of love-making. The plot is frankly conventional and undistinguished. But the author's vigorous treatment, his eminently healthy, cheerful outlook upon life, and his thorough familiarity with his background combine to make this volume as well worth reading as any he has given us. As one who has given some attention to the colloquial speech of Canadians in most portions of their wide domain, the reviewer is a little surprised to find how freely the writer of this story draws upon the colloquialisms of the United States for his Canadian characters.

FANTASY AND FUN.

The Phantom Peer: an Extravaganza. By Edwin Pugh. (Chapman & Hall, 6s.)

FOR some tastes this extravaganza will prove altogether too extravagant to be entertaining; but others may be hugely amused by Mr. Pugh's absurd tale of an actor who, at the suggestion of an American millionaire, chose to impersonate an eccentric peer. A novel feature of the

story is the episode of the pretended peer's capture and imprisonment by a half-crazed set of fanatics styled the Rationals. They desire to punish him for the sins of the man he impersonates, and especially for his supposed contemptuous attacks upon militant women Suffragists. In their abode he is threatened with a spectacular kind of corporal chastisement, and gets an unpleasant taste of the trials of forcible feeding. Here and there the narrative has flashes of mischievous cleverness, but on the whole it does not reflect credit upon a writer capable of much better things.

In the City of Under. By Evelyn Rynd. (Arnold, 6s.)

IN this story an unusually fascinating idea is worked up with no little humour and ingenuity. The author imagines that Hermes assumed the shape of a hawker, who helped people to believe that "there's a way out of everything for everybody." It is a pity that some passages read like an imitation of Lewis Carroll's well-known caricatures of incompetence and absent-mindedness; but a happy vein of originality atones for any defect due to uninspired mirth. The story may be recommended for children, inasmuch as it relates how a child lifted himself and his family out of poverty by the good fortune attending his efforts to obtain employment; but many "grown-ups" with a taste for fantasy will welcome it as a change from more probable, but not more serious fiction.

Once a Week. By A. A. Milne. (Methuen & Co., 6s.)

THIS book contains sketches which have appeared in *Punch* during the last two years above the welcome initials of "A. A. M." Here we have again our old friends the Rabbits, much of whose chaff centres round a new little rabbit, Dahlia's baby, and an account of a winter holiday spent by them in Switzerland. There are also the matrimonial and domestic adventures of a very young couple, and several burlesques and other trifles. The whole is too light and frothy to be taken in large quantities, and should be dipped into at intervals. Mr. Milne is particularly successful in a satirical vein, and there is nothing in the collection better than 'The Halo They Gave Themselves,' a parody of two popular novels, and a skit on 'The Newspaper Proprietor.'

But She Meant Well. By William Caine. (John Lane, 6s.)

THIS is a trifle light as gossamer—a series of escapades of a small child who, always with good intentions, performs a number of disastrous and annoying acts. The book contains neither plot nor characterization, and might, indeed, have been written for a child's "Library." The situations are amusing, but somewhat improbable and farcical. Provided the reader knows what he is about to receive, and desires that particular food, the book will afford entertainment.

STUDIES OF WOMEN.

Kate Mitchell. By Myrtle B. S. Jackson. (Merrythought Press, 3s. 6d.)

If we were to celebrate a centenary of novel-writing, taking (let us say) Walter Scott for 1815, we should remark on the difference in heroes and heroines, especially in love-making, and we might do worse than contrast the formal pomp of earlier declarations with some of the love-making in Miss Jackson's book. It is, indeed, almost her best point: her heroine, Kate Mitchell, is never more sympathetic, spontaneous, and charming than in her relations with Joscelyn Sanderson, weak even to ascetic, celibacy, but convinced at the last as to where his true happiness lies.

But Kate Mitchell is an admirable study throughout, and is all her chronicler postulates for her (which is the best tribute we can pay to her character-drawing). If all Higher Feminists were as attractive and efficient (a rare combination), their various "Causes" would soon be won. But variety reigns in that sphere as elsewhere, and the writer depicts it skilfully in such characters as Miss Sewell, desperately in earnest for ideal friendships, but too futile to achieve them; she was always in the background: "When was she ever given the front of anything? Even her dresses always fastened at the back." Then there is Miss Portlock, one of those "depressing disciplinarians who advocate the perpetual performance of the disagreeable just because it is disagreeable, as a means of self-culture."

The other characters are equally good in their different spheres. One is especially memorable, the expert cook Mrs. Barstock, greater than many mighty catering firms—she had taught the manager of Garrod's to make his first pastry—a personage in families of earls, archbishops, and viceroys.

There are one or two verbal peculiarities. What does the writer mean by "aeorists," and why does she use the word "locate" in an intransitive sense? Otherwise the style is thoroughly natural.

A Royal Marriage. By Sydney C. Grier. (Blackwood & Sons, 6s.)

THE author has so much good work to her credit that one is not surprised to find humour and animation among the actors and incidents of the present story. Yet the atmosphere of a small German Court in the eighteenth century is depressing, though the diction of the period and certain of its modes of thought are faithfully preserved. The young English princess newly married to an Electoral Prince, much governed by his father and his tyrannical Electress, needs good luck and the high spirit which never fails the author's heroines before she can cope with the conventions which curb her on every side, or obtain the full confidence she deserves from her perplexed and rather slow-witted husband. That studious and

unobservant young man is nearly parted from the wife he loves by his mother's persistent malevolence. The separate English household with its unfamiliar customs, the princess's tendency to the open-air habits of her country, and other innocent freedoms are all made grounds of offence, until deliberate forgery among other means is used to destroy her character. The minor steps in the heroine's attempted ruin (which proceeds so far as actual imprisonment) are, perhaps, unduly elaborated, but they involve some dramatic scenes, besides humorous relief and play of character. A counterplot is afforded by the relations between the British envoy at the Court of Molzau and a devoted maid-of-honour.

The Woman in the Bazaar. By Alice Perrin. (Cassell & Co., 3s. 6d.)

THIS is an expansion of a story issued in serial form, and does not adequately represent the present level of its author's achievement. Still, it is a workmanlike and effective presentation of a painful theme—the future of a divorced woman abandoned by her lover. The principal male character is an Army captain who marries a country clergyman's unsophisticated daughter, takes her to India, and by his bad temper drives her into the arms of a profligate. His second marriage might also have terminated in a painful manner if he had not, at a critical moment, seen his abandoned first wife playing the part of a courtesan. The story holds both good satire and common sense, and a tiger-hunting episode is horribly effective. A specimen of the double affirmative—"taciturn silence"—occurs on p. 93.

The Rise of Jennie Cushing. By Mary S. Watts. (Macmillan & Co., 6s.)

MISS WATTS has achieved a notable piece of work in the character of Jennie Cushing. Jennie has the rare virtue of being consistent throughout the varied phases of her career: as a nameless waif of the slums, a Reform School child, a hired girl on a farm, a fashionable manicurist, and an artist's model and mistress. Even as the secretary of a Suffragette leader she never does anything unexpected or contrary to her nature. Probably temperament alone would have enabled her to become "competent," but the unchildish wisdom acquired in her vagrant days taught her to be practical. Jennie was too self-reliant and honest, too cool and absorbed in her own plans, to fall into the usual faults of girls in her position; she knew too much to fall in love lightly, but when love came, her passion and surrender were complete. The last view of her, as the successful organizer of a model "Child's Home," is an impressive piece of work.

The author shows a good deal of quiet humour; and the American setting of the book is natural, though it involves the use of several words which may be strange to English readers.

The Taste of Brine. By Mrs. Hubert Barclay. (Hodder & Stoughton, 6s.)

MRS. BARCLAY lacks the courage of her convictions. The book opens with the promise of a hero with a past, a very decided past, including "hard labour," and a record as "a rotter" even during childhood. The heroine, evidently meant to be a "womanly woman," and lacking character or individuality, is apparently destined to lift him from the Slough of Despond, and shed the rosy light of hope over his future. But the courage of the author wanes, or perhaps she realizes her limitations in picturing a sin-stained soul; for "the past" diminishes into a nervous boy's escapade, ridiculously punished, and "the rotter" into a child nicknamed "Sainty." The task, not of regenerating a soul, but of talking common sense to a young man fond of posing, becomes within the scope of the heroine, and, incidentally, the powers of the author. The merit of a book like this lies in the fact that it affords a relaxation from thought.

Ways of Miss Barbara. By Agnes and Egerton Castle. (Smith & Elder, 6s.)

THE chronicle of Miss Barbara's ways (considered mainly in relation to her sentimental experience) is sufficiently diverting, and though to some extent a sequel, it does not depend for its interest on an acquaintance with earlier volumes of the same series. There is a certain conventionality about the adventures befalling the heroine—they include a gentleman highwayman and the dark alleys at Vauxhall; and the same may be said of her character. She belongs to the high-spirited, harum-scarum type of eighteenth-century girl, and lives up to her part rather more consistently than is natural. Yet grace and charm—a little artificial, perhaps—are undoubtedly hers, and the social life of the period—at least under one aspect—is cleverly suggested. We notice as an anachronism the reference to Sunday School children at a time when Robert Raikes's great work must have been still in the future.

The Nightingale. By Nancy Moore. (Constable & Co., 6s.)

LIKE Spenser's Gloriana, the nightingale, though continually discussed, is neither seen nor heard throughout this record of the adventures encountered by a young American woman travelling in search of health. Being a creature of impulse, she sails for Europe without any notice to her adored and adoring family; but her experiences, which comprise the acquisition of a second-hand car and an Italian maid, are, if unexciting, entirely innocuous. Her solitary tour reaches its goal in England (where local colour is supplied by a plumber who describes his bath-taps as "faucets"), and the conclusion witnesses her reunion with her husband—a scene of ecstasy, slightly clouded on his side, we should suppose, by the prospect of perusing the diaries kept during her travels.

CRIME AND ADVENTURE.

The House in the Downs. By H. B. Marriott Watson. (Dent & Sons, 6s.)

STIRRING beyond even the wont of smuggling stories is Mr. Marriott Watson's well-written romance of "freetrading" on the south coast of England in the days when Napoleon seemed likely to make a serious attempt to invade this country. The hero is a secret-service man of aristocratic family; and in doing the dangerous work of a spy upon Napoleon he incurs the suspicion of an interesting band of smugglers. His life is repeatedly saved by one or other of two girls; and the pathos of an unrequited love sobers the reader's pleasure in the bliss which the novelist confers on him. The maiden of "eldritch beauty" who loves and loses is an original creation worth two or three conventionally charming heroines. At least one of the hero's escapes is not quite convincing, but the vigour and picturesqueness of the story make amends for any deficiency.

Spacious Days. By Ralph Durand. (John Murray, 6s.)

It is early as yet to discuss the effects of the war upon the writing of fiction, but it would, perhaps, be safe to assume that already the European crisis has materially influenced the publishers in their selection of stories for issue this season. In many cases work of a serious sort is being withheld to make way for books supposed to be better suited to the prevailing taste, as shaped by the events of the past three months. It would seem to be generally supposed that the kind of fiction best calculated to fit the taste of the moment is the story of adventure and incident, as distinguished from psychology and characterization. Of this class Mr. Durand's book is a pleasing specimen. It cannot be said to contain any study of character, but it certainly is rich in movement, colour, and incident. The author has made a genuine effort to present the atmosphere of Elizabethan days, and his occasional use of expressions generally regarded as modern is clearly not the result of carelessness. Altogether this is a story to be recommended, though we cannot endorse the view that in this time of national crisis the public has no appetite for the quiet novel of character.

Duke of Oblivion. By John Reed Scott. (Lippincott Co., 6s.)

THIS brightly written story, in which an American yachting party discovers a little English community on a mysterious island in the Caribbean Sea, is handicapped by its lengthy start. Far too much space is devoted to the preparations for the cruise and the amorous small-talk of the hero and heroine. Not until the eighty-seventh page is reached do the adventures begin, and then the narrative takes an exceedingly brisk turn. On the island, which lies hidden behind a permanent veil of thick fog created by a warm current, are the numerous descendants of the

family and servants of an English noble, man who found a refuge there towards the close of the eighteenth century. Something more, no doubt, might have been made of the customs of a community which has had no communication with the outside world for a hundred years and more. That, however, is not the author's way. The ruling duke, recognizing that his little state is urgently in need of new blood, insists upon the visitors remaining on the island and marrying the persons whom he chooses. It is with the ingenious devices and heroic efforts of the little party to escape from the well-guarded shores that the story is concerned, and an exciting and agreeable narrative it is, though occasionally the quality of the unexpected is missing.

Sir Vincent's Patient. By Headon Hill. (Ward & Lock, 6s.)

HEADON HILL has selected as a motive for crime, the temptation of an inheritance. He imagines a potent gang of criminals headed by a physician of title and eminence, and he sets forth their machinations, and the counter-strokes that foil these, with considerable lucidity and skill. His language is at moments a little exaggerated, especially in the slang or dialect used by various characters, but his book makes excellent reading as a whole.

The Miracle Man. By Frank L. Packard. (Hodder & Stoughton, 6s.)

A GANG of ne'er-do-wells in New York, seeking for new fields of enterprise, imagine that they have found their ideal in the form of a Patriarch in a lonely country village. The Patriarch has achieved several faith-cures, and his faith-healing only requires systematic organization and advertisement. They begin their campaign with all due zeal and science, providing a "faked" cure, an unbeliever rapidly converted, and a charming damsel who adopts at once the part of ministering angel to the failing Patriarch. But a genuine faith-cure upsets their plans; the damsel lives up to her mission, and the "faked" cure turns virtuous. Last of all the converted unbeliever (the master-mind who had planned the whole campaign) also sees the error of his ways after the Patriarch's death, and marries the damsel.

The story is ingeniously put together and pleasantly told, but by far the best part is the description in the first two chapters of the rogues' abode; this has a wealth and vivacity of slang and thieves' patter which are most enlightening. But that enlightenment has, perforce, to dwindle and give place to the exigencies of the plot as it develops.

The White Lie. By William Le Queux. (Ward & Lock, 6s.)

MR. LE QUEUX raises our hopes by some sixty pages that fringe on State secrets. But just as we were hoping for some really choice developments,

"the Cabinet Minister responded [on the telephone] to an urgent call from the House

of Commons in London, where an important and heated debate regarding our foreign relations was in progress."

Then we heard no more either of Minister or debate; it all ended in smoke without fire. The remaining 240 pp. are devoted to mere crime. It is a disappointment. This is not to say that the recital of the crime is dull—far from it; but Mr. Le Queux's gifts are so pre-eminently marked out for Foreign Office mysteries and espionage *in excelsis* that we lament his descent to burglary and even murder. Seriously, there is no doubt that Mr. Le Queux can spin his yarn with an ease and a vigour that carry off the obvious faults; and, however wild may be his speculations about the greater secrets, they always afford interesting reading, if only for their improbability. Crimes are commonplace compared with them.

My Lady of the Yellow Domino. By Arthur W. Marchmont. (Hodder & Stoughton, 6s.)

THIS story introduces us to a Prince who is a candidate for the new Albanian throne, and expecting to marry, for political reasons, the Countess Eulene of Makra. He is staying in London with an English friend, and his cause leads to incessant intrigue. The "lucky Englishman," as he is called, is led by chance and deliberate plotting into a series of dangers, his life being attempted several times. Apparently he enjoys this sort of thing, for he makes no serious effort to free himself from his awkward position. He is certainly "lucky," for his stupidity in not seeing the traps laid for him is beyond belief.

This sort of difficulty, however, does not matter much in a tale of adventure, if the excitement is abundant and the threads of the story are neatly entangled and straightened out. Mr. Marchmont is successful in doing this, also in adding a romantic interest.

The Man Inside. By Natalie S. Lincoln. (Appletons, 6s.)

THIS is a murder mystery of a type familiar enough to most readers of fiction to make it, perhaps, unnecessary for us to warn them against deciding too hastily on the criminal. In the diplomatic circles of Washington, which form the *mise en scène*, any one may turn out to be an international spy, an Anarchist, or a fugitive from European justice, however engaging his or her manners; so we decided, after finishing the first few chapters, to await the novelist's ultimatum, and repress our hope that the ballot for the position of chief villain would not alight on the beautiful girl who was in her right place as the unjustly accused heroine.

As suspicion falls in turn on almost every character, with the exception of the detectives, there is a great deal to be cleared up and explained away in the concluding chapters, and some of the excuses offered seem to us rather paltry.

Literary Gossip.

THE death of Lord Roberts last Saturday is a national loss. He was vigorous till the end, and at the age of 82 he was in France renewing acquaintance with his Indian comrades at the front. His ideas of national training, which *The Athenæum* has always advocated, were persistently disregarded; but none the less he kept himself fit to serve his country, and after his great services in the Boer War he persevered in doing all he could to help the Army. Of late he had used his influence in appeals to the people for aid to our soldiers, and expositions of the national cause, and the need for that self-sacrifice of which he was himself a fine example. Not a great writer, he had the touch of sentiment which appeals to the people. In his 'Forty-One Years in India' (1897) his campaigns are related with a welcome breadth and clearness. His monograph on 'The Rise of Wellington' (1895) is a narrative rather than a critical essay.

WE welcome the news that Dr. Mahaffy has been appointed Provost of Trinity College, Dublin, though the choice was a foregone conclusion. A scholar of international reputation, and an excellent writer and linguist, Dr. Mahaffy has a vivid interest in the problems of the day as well as the learning of the past.

THE Glasgow memorial to Carlyle is now taking shape. The design chosen by the Committee is that of a block of rough-hewn granite, standing from 15 ft. to 20 ft. high, with a bust of Carlyle carved on it. The suggested site is on the main road through Kelvingrove Park.

THE HISTORICAL ASSOCIATION have issued a useful pamphlet on 'History and the Present War,' which offers a short bibliography for the use of teachers of history and, we presume, lecturers. The information is not confined to history, and includes poetry. We are told—on the authority of a German newspaper—that "the first two months of the war have produced in Germany over one million poems." Our own bards have been fairly busy, but we cannot credit them with anything like an average of over sixteen thousand sets of verses every day.

LAST TUESDAY Prof. G. S. Gordon presented M. Verhaeren for his degree at Leeds, with an appreciation of him as the representative poet of Belgium, "born and bred in the heart of Flanders." The fifth book of 'Toute la Flandre,' he said, "concluded a cycle of national poetry such as no other country of the modern world can parallel." Its author was essentially concerned with the realities of life and the beauty of fact. His favourite words for Flanders were "tenace" and "féconde."

THE second number of *The American Oxonian*, the official organ of the "Alumni Association of American Rhodes Scholars," has an interesting examination of 'The Lack of Competition for the Rhodes Scholarships.' Selectors and ex-scholars both agree that ignorance and

misconception are the chief reasons for this failure. "The scheme," says the editorial comment, "has not yet got properly started in this country, and cannot until it is better known."

The magazine should do notable work in bringing the advantage and significance of Rhodes's scheme before American boys and teachers. The prevailing type of scholarship in the United States, which is Teutonic, would bear modification through Oxonian influences.

'THE ROYAL NAVY LIST' is for the future to be published annually, and the first issue will be ready in December. This year's number will contain a Supplement devoted to services during the present war of both officers and ships.

THE well-known American author Mr. H. W. Mabie has ready a book on 'Japan To-day and To-morrow,' which will be issued by Messrs. Macmillan shortly.

THE CAMBRIDGE UNIVERSITY PRESS will publish shortly the 'Lectures on the Origins of the Present War' now being delivered in the University by Dr. J. Holland Rose.

MR. H. C. LUKACH, who in the spring of last year issued, under the title of 'The Fringe of the East,' a narrative of travel in Turkey, is about to give us a second volume dealing with the same country. It will be named 'The City of Dancing Dervishes,' will be thoroughly illustrated, and, as was the case with the earlier book, will be published by Messrs. Macmillan.

MESSRS. SMITH & ELDER will publish about the end of this month 'The Orchard Pavilion,' by Mr. A. C. Benson. The little book was designed and executed, and indeed printed, before the storm-cloud of war had appeared on the horizon. It is not written in the key which the author would now choose, but it is still, he believes, substantially true.

MESSRS. MACMILLAN will publish shortly a volume by Canon Carnegie, Rector of St. Margaret's, Westminster, entitled 'Democracy and Christian Doctrine: an Essay in Reinterpretation.'

MR. MURRAY will publish next Thursday the third volume of 'The Life of Lord Beaconsfield.' This, the first to be undertaken by Mr. G. E. Buckle, formerly editor of *The Times*, contains the fragments of the last written work of W. F. Monypenny, and, covering the years 1846-55, shows Disraeli on the full tide of his Parliamentary career—as Leader of the House of Commons, Chancellor of the Exchequer, and the bright particular star of the Opposition.

MESSRS. SIDGWICK & JACKSON will publish immediately, under the title of 'Vain Oblations,' a volume of stories by Mrs. Katharine F. Gerould, who, we learn, has achieved a sudden and remarkable reputation in the United States.

The same firm have in hand 'Child Training,' by Mrs. Arthur H. D. Acland, a volume of suggestions for parents and teachers, which is the result of many years' observation and study of children.

MESSRS. HEADLEY are publishing at the beginning of December '1914 Illustrated,' in which the principal episodes of the war will be described. We are glad to learn that picturesque rumours and fantastic fictions will be avoided. Special articles will be contributed by Sir Edward Cook, Mr. H. G. Wells, and other well-known writers.

MR. ARTHUR BENSON has revised and added to his Introduction to 'Ionica,' now included in Messrs. Allen & Unwin's "Pocket Sesame Library." They are also adding shortly Erasmus's 'In Praise of Folly,' with Holbein's designs, to the same Library.

The Cornhill Magazine for December opens with an article by Admiral Sir Edward Seymour on 'Naval Warfare To-day.' An account of 'The Battlefield between the Marne and the Aisne' is given by Mr. Robert C. Witt, who spent the latter half of September tramping the country over which the armies had just passed. In 'Our City and the War' Lady Charnwood tells of Belgian wounded and their English friends. Mr. A. C. Benson in 'Escapes' writes of the motives of life; Dr. S. Squire Sprigge 'On Unbending over a Novel.' Mr. Frank Mulgrew reconstructs from old documents 'A Real Dotheboys Hall,' showing that Dickens was not guilty of exaggeration. 'With Widgeon and Mallard' is a sporting article by Mr. H. Hesketh Prichard. Mr. Alexis Roche contributes a second episode of 'Journeys with Jerry the Jarvey.' Short stories are 'Martha,' by Katharine Tynan, and 'The Woman,' by Mr. A. A. Milne; while Mr. Shelland Bradley in 'Concerning Snakes' tells the tale of a marvellous piece of Indian jugglery—or hypnotism.

NOTEWORTHY contributions in the Christmas number of *Scribner's Magazine* are a complete unpublished story, 'The Waif Woman,' by Stevenson; a further article on Mr. Richard Harding Davis's experiences as a war correspondent; a paper on the War by Mr. Villard of *The New York Evening Post*; and a story of London by Mr. John Galsworthy, entitled 'A Simple Tale,' fully illustrated.

THE December number of *Chambers's Journal*, besides extra Christmas features, will include 'Education and Foreign Methods,' by Sir Thomas Barclay; 'Old Scottish Prophecies,' by Mr. James Ferguson; 'The Cost of Radium,' by Mr. G. B. Barham; 'Romance,' by Mr. A. J. Dawson; and 'Casteil Huistean,' by Lady Napier of Magdala.

WE regret to notice the death, at the age of 53, of Mr. Arthur Morris Binstead, the editor of *Town Topics*, which he founded after he left *The Sporting Times*. Mr. Binstead was the cleverest and most original of the writers who deal with sport and the Bohemian side of London life, and anything bearing his pen-name "Pitcher" was sure to be marked by his ingenious fantasy of phrase. His book 'Pink'un and a Pelican: Some Random Reminiscences, Sporting and Otherwise,' is the most amusing of its kind.

SCIENCE

The Principle of Relativity. By E. Cunningham. (Cambridge University Press, 9s. net.)

ALTHOUGH the definite statement of the Principle of Relativity is a comparatively recent contribution to physical science, the underlying problem is really as old as the theory of the ether itself.

When the emission theory of light prevailed, the physical phenomena then known could easily be explained, and without too deep a study of the nature of the corpuscles supposed to be shot out by the luminous body. But with the rise of the wave theory of light and the conception of a luminiferous ether, various difficulties and questions forced themselves upon the observer. What, for instance, is this ether? and what is its relation to matter? How is it influenced by the motion of matter through it? The natural conception is of a fluid which may or may not penetrate into the interstices of matter. Some thinkers were for excluding it entirely from the space occupied by matter, a view which necessitated its being pushed away as bodies moved through it. Others adopted a modification of this view, allowing that it might penetrate into the interstices of matter, but suffered some modification in the process.

Thus the extreme position on the one hand is that the ether is comparable with a fluid to which matter is impervious, but which is pushed along at the bounding surface of any material body. An analogy in ordinary life would be a solid ball moving through water. This view was taken by Cauchy, Arago, and Stokes.

On the other hand lies the extreme position that the ether is stagnant or immobile, that the passage of matter through it produces no disturbance of it as a whole, like the wind blowing through the leaves of a tree. Although this view was hinted at, at first it only came gradually into general acceptance, and this probably because the early conception of the ether was really that of a particular form of matter.

Experiments were devised to test the correctness of the one or the other view, and gradually the evidence accumulated told in favour of the second. The next problem was to determine, if possible, the velocity of the ether relative to the ether. So far the experiments had involved the velocities to the first order, and hence the results only concerned the relative velocity of the apparatus to the ether.

In 1887 Michelson devised his famous experiment (afterwards repeated with greater accuracy by Morley) in which the velocities were involved to the second order, and which, therefore, promised a possibility of determining the velocity of the ether relative to the ether, assuming this velocity to be of the same order as

that of the ether relative to the sun. In spite of the greatest care no measurable effect was obtained, and it seemed at first as though the theory was inadequate. Fitzgerald threw out the suggestion that, if the ether percolated through matter, it might very well affect the apparatus and change its dimensions when rotated, the change being just sufficient to compensate the looked-for effect. This suggestion was carried no further at the time, and it was left to Lorentz to reaffirm it independently in 1895, giving at the same time some plausible reason for its occurrence.

Briefly, the steps in his argument were as follows. Taking the Maxwellian equations of the electro-magnetic field referred to fixed axes, he transferred them to parallel axes moving with a constant velocity. Then he found what modifications were necessary in order that the solutions of the equations referred to the new axes should be similar to those referred to the old, and one of the results that came out was that the distance between two "rigidly attached" points contracted when the line joining them moved in its own direction.

It was at this stage that the theory of Relativity took its present form with the introduction by Einstein of an entirely novel point of view. He assumed fundamentally that the velocity of light is equal and constant in all directions, and investigated what amount of arbitrariness in the space and time variables is consistent with this assumption. The analysis shows that this amount is exactly that indicated in the Lorentz transformations. His conclusion, then, was that, if light is the only source of communication between distant points by means of which a standard of simultaneity for events at different places can be set up, there is still that arbitrariness in the measures of space and time suggested by the Lorentz equations; or, briefly, that it is impossible to determine an absolute velocity by ordinary experimental methods.

An additional impetus was given to the study of the subject by the introduction by Minkowski of his four-dimensional calculus, in which the time is counted as a dimension along with the ordinary three dimensions of space.

Simultaneously, the ordinary theories of the dynamics of particles, of electrons, of continuous material media, &c., have been revised in the light of this new theory, while metaphysicians have examined the philosophic possibility of its truth.

Until now no connected account of the whole of the work done on the subject has appeared in English, and we welcome Mr. Cunningham's book as a clear exposition of it. Naturally the subject, though it interests both philosophers and physicists, is mainly mathematical. Mr. Cunningham has avoided the strictly controversial side of the question, and has wisely devoted himself to the mathematical working out of the theory and its amplifications. In

dealing with the theories of Einstein and Minkowski the vectorial notation is used, but, as a concession to English students, the corresponding exposition in Cartesian co-ordinates is given in footnotes.

To the mathematical physicist the book offers an admirable survey of the subject, while the average student may read with advantage all of it except the more involved analysis.

SOCIETIES.

MATHEMATICAL.—Nov. 12.—*Annual Meeting.*—Prof. A. E. H. Love, retiring President, and subsequently Prof. Sir Joseph Larmor, newly elected President, in the chair.—Mr. J. P. Clatworthy was elected a Member.

The President alluded to the death of Mr. G. S. Carr, who had been a Member for over forty years. He then presented the De Morgan Medal to Sir Joseph Larmor, and gave a short account of his researches in mathematics and mathematical physics.

After the election of the Council and officers for the ensuing session, Sir Joseph Larmor took the chair, and called upon the retiring President to give his Presidential Address.

Prof. Love took 'Mathematical Research' as the topic of his address, which will be printed in the *Proceedings* of the Society. He pointed out (giving many illustrations from the classical memoirs of mathematics) the qualities which are requisite to produce a piece of mathematical research. In addition to having technical skill and a knowledge of past work in the same field, the investigator should possess the power of exposition, and should aim at combining conciseness with lucidity. The ideal investigation asks a perfectly definite question, and obtains an equally definite answer, expressed in the simplest and briefest form.

The following papers were then communicated: 'Note on an Extension of Sylow's Theorem,' by Prof. G. A. Miller; 'The Conformal Representation of the Various Triangles bounded by the Arcs of Three Intersecting Circles,' by Mr. J. Hodgkinson; 'The Dynamical Theory of the Tides in a Zonal Basin,' by Mr. G. R. Goldsbrough; 'The Modulus of an Analytic Function,' by Mr. G. H. Hardy; 'On the Modification of a Train of Waves as it advances into Shallow Water,' and 'On a Configuration of 21 Points and 21 Lines which arises from the complete Quadrilateral, and determines the Group of 108 Plane Collineations,' by Prof. W. Burnside; 'On Convex Closed Surfaces,' by Prof. Tadabiko Kubota; and 'On Integrals and Derivates with regard to a Function,' by Prof. W. H. Young.

MEETINGS NEXT WEEK.

- MON. Victoria and Albert Museum, 3.—'Land Forms and Landscapes,' Lecture V., Dr. J. D. Falconer.
— Royal Academy, 4.—'Methods of Wall Painting,' Prof. A. P. Laurie.
— King's College, Strand, 5.30.—'L'Histoire du Gout en France,' Lecture VII., Dr. G. Rudier.
— Faraday, 8.—Discussion on 'The Hardening of Metals.'
— Society of Arts, 8.—'The History and Principles of the Art of Printing,' Lecture I., Mr. R. A. Peckie. (Cantor Lecture).
— Surveyors Institution, 8.—'Our Wheat Supply,' Mr. E. Savill.
— Geographical, 8.30.—'The Mental Training of a Traveller,' Viscount Bryce.
- TUES. Victoria and Albert Museum, 3.—'Land Forms and Landscapes,' Lecture VI., Dr. J. D. Falconer.
— Colonial Institute, 4.—'The Expansion of Britain's Imperial Relations with the Overseas Dominions resulting from the War,' Mr. H. A. Ellis.
— Zoological, 5.30.—Exhibition of Tests of Arenaceous Foraminifera to introduce a Discussion on the Interpretation of these Structures. Messrs. F. Heron-Allen and A. Earland; (1) 'A New Fossil Reptile from South Africa,' (2) 'Notes on some Carnivorous Therapsids,' and (3) 'Eumecesaurus africanus, Reilly, and the Ancestry of the Chelonians,' Mr. D. M. S. Watson; 'Polychaeta from the N.E. Pacific: The Chaetopetrids,' Mr. F. A. Potts.
— London School of Economics, 8.—'The State Regulation of Wages,' Lecture VI., Mr. Tawney.
- WED. Royal Academy, 4.—'The Theory of Colour and its Application to Painting,' Prof. A. P. Laurie.
— British Academy, 5.—'Some Results of Research in the History of Education in England,' Mr. A. F. Leach.
— King's College, Strand, 5.15.—'Islamic Culture in India,' Syed Amer Ali.
— Society of Arts, 8.—'The Supply of Chemicals to Great Britain and her Dependencies,' Mr. W. A. Tilden.
— Society of Literature, 5.30.—'The Influence of European Thought on Brazilian Literature,' Senhor Manoel G. Lima.
- THURS. Institution of Electrical Engineers, 8.—'Power Plant Testing,' Mr. W. M. Selvey.
- FRI. University College, 3.—'Greek Art: the Eliden Sarcophagi: the Pergamene Altar,' Prof. F. A. Gardner.
— Royal Academy, 4.—'The Chemistry of Building Materials,' Prof. A. P. Laurie.
— University Hall, Gordon Square, 8.—'Confucianism and its Rivals,' Lecture VII., Prof. H. A. Giles.
— Theological and Philosophical.—'The Law of Gravitation,' Mr. E. Rabone.
- SAT. Bedford College, 3.—'Nursing our Soldiers and Sailors back to Health,' Dr. A. T. Ransley. (Chadwick Public Lecture).
— Victoria and Albert Museum, 3.—'Land Forms and Landscapes,' Lecture VII., Dr. J. D. Falconer.

FINE ARTS

Cathedrals and Cloisters of Northern France.

By E. Whitlock Rose. With Illustrations from Original Photographs, by Vida Hunt Francis. 2 vols. (Putnam's Sons, 11. 1s. net.)

We think it was Stevenson who said that cathedrals were "the favourite kind of mountain scenery of some people." To that large class and to many others these volumes should make a strong appeal. They are full of perfect photographs taken by a lady who has given herself the trouble to climb to out-of-the-way vantage points in order to show us things which even those who think they know the cathedrals have usually missed. What, for instance, could be better than the view of the flying buttresses at Evreux?

Miss Rose in her text and in her pictures often shows us (what is to many English people the most attractive point about Continental churches) the way in which the Church takes its part in the everyday life of the people. In her pages we can see what T. E. Brown meant when, speaking of Italy, he wrote of the

"carts and booths right up against the walls, no mutual avoidance, quite the opposite, a sweet cosiness of benediction, a localization of peace in the midst of turmoil; a man lighting his pipe, I will not say immediately, from the lamp that stands at the feet of the Madonna; bright laughing girls.... And every now and then a good wife passes beneath the belfry, sets down her basket, and says a prayer and dreams a dream. Ah! It is delicious."

It is this atmosphere that we breathe in Miss Rose's pages.

In recent times French cathedrals and ancient walls have suffered so heavily at the hand of the architect that any book which preserves a permanent record of them before they have all been overdone by the restorer or destroyed by the Germans deserves a welcome; and Miss Rose will make many friends, and will certainly lead some readers to pause the next time they are flying through France, and give a day to such places as Langres, "the little hilltop city," which is seldom seen, yet easily visited by the traveller on his way to Switzerland.

Those who have been attracted by Les Baux and Pompeii may wish to see what little is left of Théroutanne, and the author's remarks about that ruined city are excellent, even if their connexion with 'Cathedrals and Cloisters' is not very close.

Of Arras and Saint-Omer Miss Rose writes with abundant knowledge, but when she was at work she did not foresee war. It is odd in a book published at this moment to read that in all Artois there is no excursion more charming than the walk through a village in a district which has now been the scene of most stubborn fighting for many days. In other parts of the book war has made the

volumes seem curiously out of date, as where a walled town, with its old castle, suggests that "everything speaks of peace."

If Miss Rose's book provides much that we can praise, we are bound to say that its contents do not justify her title. She has spent years on writing a work that professes to deal with the 'Cathedrals and Cloisters of Northern France.' How is it possible to defend the omission from such volumes of the cathedrals of Caen, Chartres, Orleans, Tours, Sens, Paris, Beauvais, Amiens, Abbeville, Rouen, Bourges, and Rheims? Or why should Metz and Strasburg be included? An unsatisfactory reason is given for the inclusion of the two cathedrals of Alsace-Lorraine; and Rouen, Bourges, and Rheims are (according to an advertisement) included in the author's volumes on the Isle of France. But then it is equally puzzling to understand why Rouen, Bourges, Rheims, Troyes, Amiens, and other places should figure in a work devoted to the Isle of France, as they are none of them in that ancient province.

The sketch-map is clear, and would have been perfect if the crosses on it which denote cathedral towns had been properly marked, or if there had been a note to explain that the author marked only those which she here describes. As it is, Boulogne appears as a cathedral town, and Amiens does not.

The two volumes should be a delight to travellers in France when the war is over, and they would have been even more useful if they had been printed on lighter paper.

A Simple Guide to Pictures. By Mrs. Henry Head. (Chatto & Windus, 5s. net.)

THERE can be no gainsaying the simplicity of Mrs. Head's 'A Simple Guide to Pictures,' for it is the outstanding feature of the book. Her Introduction starts as follows:—

"Fairy godmothers came to the cradle of the little Princess in our story-books, bringing fairy gifts for future blessing, as we all know well. But our cradles were no less fortunate, for to each one of us, born into this happy world, were given five priceless gifts, quite fairy-like if we come to think of them—seeing, hearing, touching, smelling, and tasting."

After an amplification of this, she attacks her main theme:—

"Let me tell you, to begin with, what, so far as we know, are the first pictures ever made in our Continent. To do this we must go back to the days when the Greeks were masters of the world. With them the love of beauty went side by side with success in conquest, and when you go to Athens you will see still standing the temples built by them in those far-off days of triumph, when victories were celebrated, of which we read in ancient books. Such victories the Greeks carved in marble, and these carved pictures we may still see and marvel at."

We do not know if it is Mrs. Head's

cult of simplicity which leads her to believe that the earliest graphic art in the Continent of Europe was produced when the Greeks were "masters of the world," and that temples in Athens or, indeed, anywhere else were erected to celebrate victories, and that Greek sculpture was mainly employed in carving its victories in marble; nor do we know if we must attribute to this same cult sundry other strange statements. Thus on p. 212 we learn that the grouping in Watteau's pictures was probably the outcome of the "Rococo" fashion of the day, which preferred the rounded or shell-like shape. Again on p. 30 we are told that we remember Piero della Francesca best by his portraits. P. 217, moreover, informs us that the real problem of every picture is the question of light falling on the things around us. To the cult of simplicity, however, we must certainly attribute the consistent "nursery" tone of Mrs. Head's style, which seems intended for extremely young children.

We fear that, in spite of all efforts to conceal her erudition, Mrs. Head is too scholastic for her audience. We cannot, for example, imagine how children, still sufficiently near the "play-garden" stage of their education to welcome Mrs. Head's opening paragraph, can appreciate and differentiate between Cimabue, Leonardo, Mantegna, Dürer, Memline, El Greco, Breughel, and Hogarth, as well as Rembrandt, Titian, Reynolds, and Van Dyck. Nor do we understand how the chronological chart at the beginning of the book can help the infant mind towards that understanding of pictorial conventions and that warm love of beauty and truth which Mrs. Head advocates passionately in her final pages. Nor, indeed, if the book fell into the hands of an older student, can we believe that he would learn much about Botticelli and Goya from the three and a half pages of large type which are respectively devoted to them. We note some curious omissions in the list of painters mentioned—Vermeer of Delft, for example, and Ruysdael; and the list stops with Lawrence, and does not contain Turner and Constable. Surely it would have been wise to include painters whose works are to-day everywhere to be seen in endless reproductions.

The illustrations, though nearly all in colour, are excellent; indeed, some of the plates are the best achievements of colour-printing we have come across lately. As regards the choice of subjects, we do not understand why there are no reproductions of works by Titian and Michelangelo; or why a man's head in a private collection in Cologne, attributed to Memline, is used to represent that master; or why Velasquez's early 'The Omelette Woman,' in Sir Frederick Cook's collection, and the poor 'Infanta Margerita' in Vienna, should have been selected. On the other hand, we welcome Boucher's 'Le Déjeuner' and Van Dyck's 'King Charles and his Family' from the Duke of Richmond's collection.

OLD EMBROIDERIES OF THE GREEK ISLANDS AND TURKEY.

THE name of Greece is associated so intimately with a very early art that perhaps the title of this show at the Burlington Fine Arts Club will raise extravagant expectations as to the antiquity and primitive virtue of the art displayed. Here we are, for the most part, in the eighteenth century or thereabouts. During that period traditional artistry still permeated the everyday life of almost every country in a way which, in some cases, is delightful indeed in comparison with the standards of the century which followed; yet, whether in East or West, art but lingered pleasantly, repeating with diminished conviction familiar themes. It is not a period when we can fairly look for extreme purity of style, but it is astonishing how rarely these embroideries show the muddled efforts of the unintelligent copyist compromising between two motives.

"In the Greek Islands [we are assured by the author of the admirably written catalogue] the art of embroidery is now dead. . . . That it lived so long in some islands is due to their having been till recently under Turkish rule, and to their isolation from the blessings of civilization."

It is a melancholy reflection that this isolation seems on the point of being withdrawn from Turkey itself, and that the beautiful art shown in the embroideries from Asia Minor may before long vanish as completely. On the whole, the Turkish and Persian elements of design appear to us the more native and contemporary in the way in which they are handled in these embroideries: witness the superb vigour of the early table-cover (54), or the bold meander of No. 64. Such freehand drawing betrays the quality of the individual artist, and the hanging over the mantelpiece (42), taken as it is at first sight, is distinctly inferior to No. 64 in its quality of line. The more geometrical forms of the pieces showing Levantine tradition seem the result of careful copying, as in the samplers of our great-grandmothers. On the other hand, they were more capable of being copied; and from scrupulous hands we get fine results, as in the noble "queen" patterns of the *Southern Sporades Bed Tent* (67). Fine as are these units of form, however, we can accord to the colour of this piece only a certain negative refinement, while the artichoke design of No. 54 is inspired by the zest of a born colourist. In the torn forms of these blue leaves, in the sparks of blue of No. 97, and the swift spirals of the same hue in No. 64 we find a colour usually quiet and retiring endowed with an angry vehemence by the policy of loosing sudden sallies of blue in a scheme where reds dominate, but reds confined within suave forms and led up to by muted notes of their own colour. This reversal of the usual parts played by the two colours gives a deep richness which might be sombre but for the ingenuity with which every device is utilized for exasperating contrasts. A similar uncanny double impression is found in the colour-scheme, at once sombre and biting, of No. 131: to use colour in such wilful dynamic fashion requires a touch of genius. On the other hand, No. 51 looks out of place among its surroundings, its tawdry magnificence recalling the Orient as it is interpreted in our own theatre. Much to be preferred is the steady hold on colour science of No. 43, with its simple alternation of a dominant red with similar quantities of blue and green, or the even simpler red pattern, perfectly proportioned for its pitch of colour, of No. 22. Among the frocks, No. 44 is highly successful on lines similar to the last-named—a magnificent costume; while the

sumptuous elegance of No. 84 is in its more sophisticated and discrete fashion an even more finished work of art. Is it by a stroke of prophecy that the "Sultan" represented on No. 84 is endowed with a moustache of a type famous in Europe to-day?

OTHER EXHIBITIONS.

At the Dudley Galleries Mr. George F. Nicholls's water-colours of Oxford colleges and illustrations to Gray's 'Elegy' are thoroughly typical examples of the modern practice in this (may we say?) medium. They are also, perhaps, typically British in the way in which they settle almost every question by a compromise.

Of Mr. Haselden's cartoons this cannot be said. The telling of the story in the most direct way possible is his business, and this fact, added to his complete scorn for any æsthetic adornment, is a great source of strength. In such a sequence as the well-known presentation of the Kaiser as an eagle (54) his draughtsmanship shows a great advance on his earlier efforts. On the other hand, in his subject-matter he is, perhaps, a little too bent on telling his public what they would like to hear, and on insinuating a cowardice in the enemy less than complimentary to the prowess of our own army. Moreover, the kind of humour displayed in such a drawing as *German Culture in War* (28) is hardly suited to so ghastly a theme. Here we see the work of an imagination which either does not believe that such things have occurred (in which case it was immoral to have published the drawing), or, more probably, fails to realize their actuality because the artist's own experience has been so different. Mr. Haselden is more in his element in exploiting the great events of suburban everyday life.

Fine Art Gossip.

M. RODIN has presented to the British nation the fine collection of his sculptures recently on view at the South Kensington Museum, "as a little token of admiration for your heroes." Mr. Pease, the Minister of Education, has written, in the name of the Government, to M. Rodin that he accepts "this priceless gift with the greatest pleasure," especially because it is a tribute of admiration for our soldiers at the front.

The collection is representative, and includes many famous masterpieces.

An exhibition of water-colours and black-and-white work is now on view at the United Arts Club, Dublin. Amongst the exhibitors are Mr. Dermot O'Brien, Mr. Crampton Walker, Mr. Percy French, and Miss May Guinness.

No. 18 of the *Journal* of the Imperial Arts League opens with a brief article on 'Artists and the War.' 'The Work of the League' shows in some typical cases the practical assistance it has given in claiming for artists their due rights, particularly in the matter of reproductions. 'Copyright in Photographs' explains the law on a point which often gets the easily persuaded sitter into difficulties. 'A Word to Art Students,' by 'An Old Student,' is striking; but when he warns off his juniors from abnormal developments of to-day and yesterday because they sprang from Germany, and the "decadent philosophy" which has had "blood-stained fruition," he seems to us to be more patriotic than convincing.

MUSIC

The Promenade Ticket: a Lay Record of Concert-Going. By A. H. Sidgwick. (Arnold, 3s. 6d. net.)

ALREADY we are beginning to realize that the war is destined to clear the air of all manner of effete fads and superstitions, and to sweep into eternity many things that we have hitherto endured with, perhaps, too much complacency. Musical criticism may well be one of these—musical criticism, that is, of what we may call the old "Monday Pop." programme type: "The first subject is in the key of C, three-four time, and is entrusted to the first violin," specimens of which still greet us in the pages of some of our contemporaries. Musical criticism of another sort we must and shall have, and we hoped, in opening 'The Promenade Ticket,' to find that Mr. A. H. Sidgwick had given us in his 'Lay Record of Concert-Going' a foretaste of the musical criticism of the future. That hope, however, has not been realized.

The scheme of the little book seemed promising. A season ticket for the Queen's Hall Promenade Concerts is shared by a group of young people who are under an engagement to record their impressions of the music that they hear for the benefit of an elderly amateur in the country. But the thing is handled stiffly, and the characters in this comedy exhibit few signs of life. The two girls are mere dolls who, when subjected to the proper amount of pressure, squeak "Brahms" and "Folk-Song" respectively. The breezy Philistine of the party is frankly insufferable, and the soulful hero, who does most of the work, is a sad prig. His priggishness would not matter if he had anything to say, but the one thing that his impressions are not is impressionistic. They follow the beaten track. For the most part they are hardly more than echoes of the "Monday Pop." programme methods to which we have referred:—

"The time slackens a trifle, and then recovers. The wood-wind repeats the utterance more quietly, and with a melancholy colour stealing in. And then the horns, calm and splendid as ever, deliver two little dropping phrases, and come softly down the scale, alternating with chords on the strings."

No, the musical critic of the future will not write like that. He will tell us a little more about what the music means to himself, if not what it meant to the composer. The poetic basis of music has, no doubt, been responsible in these latter days for a deplorable amount of "gush," but it cannot be ignored, if music is to be treated, not only as a science, but also as an art. The day is past when music could be regarded as a "melodious noise" and nothing more, and our critics in the future will have to find in it more than ingenious arabesques, or they will speak to deaf ears.

BRIGHTON MUSICAL FESTIVAL.

THURSDAY, the 12th inst., was a busy day at Brighton, for there were two concerts. That in the afternoon opened with tone-pictures illustrating two scenes from Malory's 'Morte d'Arthur,' by Miss Edith Swepstone, under whose direction they were given. The music of the first sought to convey an impression of the atmosphere of mystery connected with the lake into which was cast the sword Excalibur; that of the second the sorrow of the last parting of Launcelot and Guinevere. It was, therefore, programme music of the right kind. The composer was more successful in the second, though the treatment of the thematic material lacked strength.

Sir Charles Villiers Stanford conducted his Irish Rhapsody, No. 4, but, as this clever work was recently produced in London, it will suffice to record a fresh success.

Mr. Lyell-Taylor conducted Tschai-kowsky's 'Symphonie Pathétique.' There were displays of energy at fitting moments; for the rest, however, one felt that the work had been so thoroughly rehearsed that the players only needed quiet guidance. Mr. Lyell-Taylor knows his score by heart, and when conductors can trust their memories, they get into closer touch with the performers. The reading of the Symphony was sound and effective. Miss Alice Lakin sang the 'Farewell' from Tschai-kowsky's 'Joan of Arc' with success.

At the evening concert Sir Hubert Parry produced his Symphony Poem in two connected movements (written specially for the Festival). The first is entitled 'A Lament,' the second 'Consolation,' and the work was "inspired by the tremendous events through which we are passing." As the first is based on two themes, 'Death' and 'Fate,' while the second depicts the 'Joy of Life,' the programme, so to speak, is quite clear, and its striking contrasts are well brought out in the music. The latter is stately, and at times very solemn. At a first hearing, however, it sounds somewhat disappointing, on account of its simplicity. It seems as if such important themes as those in the first part would require, and well bear, more imposing treatment. But very likely, as the music becomes familiar, it may grow in impressiveness. To mistake simplicity for weakness would, in Sir Hubert's case, be unjust. The performance was under the direction of the composer.

Sir Frederick Bridge conducted his 'Choral Ballad of the Clamphedown,' in which the choir sang with splendid spirit. Another work which pleased greatly was the Overture to Sir Alexander Mackenzie's opera 'The Cricket on the Hearth,' conducted by the composer.

After the interval the Introduction and third act of 'Lohengrin' were given, with Misses Mabel Bartlett and Marguerite Pitcher, and Messrs. John Booth and Frederic Austin, in the solo parts.

The programme on Saturday morning consisted of the second and third acts from

'Parsifal,' with Mr. John Coates (Parsifal), Mr. Thorpe Bates (Amfortas), Mr. Robert Radford (Gurnemanz), Mr. Dawson Freer (Klingsor), and last, but not least, Miss Carrie Tubb (Kundry). Some musicians may object to excerpts from operas and music-dramas of Wagner in the concert-room, but the general public appear to regard them with great satisfaction. Anyhow, at Brighton they were eminently successful. In these excerpts, also in 'The Messiah,' which on Saturday evening ended the week's music, choir and orchestra rendered valuable service. Mr. Lyell-Taylor may be congratulated on the artistic result of this Festival.

Musical Gossip.

THERE was a large audience at the sixth Classical Concert at Bechstein Hall on Wednesday. The programme included Bach's A major Sonata for violin and pianoforte and Brahms's Sonata for pianoforte and violoncello. Miss Fanny Davies was assisted in the first by Miss Jelly d'Aranyi, and in the second by Madame Guilhermina Suggia. Both works were effectively interpreted by the three artists. The Brahms Sonata was evidently much enjoyed. Its first movement is fine, though rather long; but the delicate Allegretto and spirited Finale do not err in this respect—rather the reverse. Miss Fanny Davies, besides taking part in Beethoven's highly poetical Trio in E flat, Op. 70, No. 2, played with skill and taste a group of light solos. The first was Beethoven's Variations on 'Rule, Britannia,' of which the best part is the air; the last was Henselt's "Si oiseau j'étais," still the most popular of his many Études.

At the Symphony Concert last Saturday at Queen's Hall there was an excellent programme. The absence of novelties may be regretted by some, and it would be fatal to progress if it indicated a resolve to be satisfied with such attractive works as we possess until they cease to draw. A chance, though the present is not a time suitable for experiments, should be given to new music which seems to have a future. Even among old works by the great composers there are not a few which would virtually be novelties, and, bearing great names, would be accepted without cavil or criticism. Saturday's programme opened with Weber's 'Freischütz' Overture, which of late has been somewhat neglected; and Sir Henry J. Wood secured a fine performance of it. Miss Isolda Menges's reading of Tschai-kowsky's Violin Concerto was very good, but it just lacked that dash and brilliancy which with this able artist is only a question of a short time. Dr. Walford Davies's pleasant 'Conversations' were repeated, he himself being at the pianoforte. The concert ended with a noble reading of the 'Eroica' Symphony.

A CONCERT organized by the official committee of help for the Belgian victims was given at Queen's Hall on Tuesday afternoon. It opened with the Belgian National Hymn, which was sung with great spirit and fine declamation by M. Dua. Madame Hendricks in "Che farò" and Madame Carliant in Massenet's "Pleurez mes vœux" were both successful. Of the same composer's 'Pensée d'Automne' M. Bouilliez's interpretation was thoroughly artistic; he also possesses an excellent voice. M. Lauweryns rendered effective service at the

pianoforte. During the interval Miss Phyllis Saxon cleverly impersonated Belgium and her sad fate in an appropriate dance.

AN interesting pianoforte recital was given by Dr. Esposito at the Royal Dublin Society on Monday. The programme included Rameau's Gavotte and Variations in A minor and the 'Davidsbündler' of Schumann.

THE principal feature of the second concert of the Royal Philharmonic Society next Tuesday will be a performance of Berlioz's 'Te Deum,' which has not been heard in London for many years. The Hallé Choir will come to London for the concert, which Mr. Thomas Beecham will conduct. The programme will contain one novelty, Arnold Bax's 'Fatherland,' a choral setting of a poem by the Finnish poet Runeberg. The other orchestral numbers will be Mr. Balfour Gardiner's 'In Maytime,' which was produced at a Promenade Concert a few weeks ago, the Concerto Grosso in E minor of Handel, and César Franck's 'Le Chasseur Maudit.'

It had been intended to include the first performance of a new choral work by Mr. Frederick Delius, but this was found to be impossible, owing to delay in obtaining the parts from France. The work will, however, be produced at one of the later concerts of the season.

A SPECIAL CONCERT will be given at Queen's Hall by the London Choral Society, together with the band of the Coldstream Guards, on Wednesday, December 9th, in aid of Princess Mary's Fund for providing soldiers and sailors with Christmas gifts. The conductors will be Mr. Arthur Fagge and Capt. J. Mackenzie Rogan.

MISS JEAN STERLING MACKINLAY is giving two special matinées at the Little Theatre, on Saturday next, and Thursday, December 3rd, in aid of the Queen's Work for Women Fund.

A CONCERT will be given next month by the Brighton Municipal Orchestra, the proceeds of which will be handed over to The Daily Telegraph Belgian Fund. Arrangements are being made to secure some of the best artists.

NEXT THURSDAY EVENING at the Surrey Masonic Hall the William Blake Society of Arts and Letters has arranged a concert "in aid of war relief." The second part will be devoted to patriotic songs. The whole of the 'Songs of Innocence' will be sung in the first part. Blake's 'War Song,' which he wrote at 20, will be heard in a setting by Prof. Vernon Drew; and Sir Vincent Caillard will figure as a composer.

SOME time ago the National Federation of Music Clubs in America offered a prize of ten thousand dollars for an opera in English by an American composer, and it has been won by Dr. Horatio William Parker. Fifty-six scores were submitted, the fortunate one being 'Fairyland,' libretto by Mr. Brian Hooker. This work will be produced next summer at Los Angeles. The composer is Professor of Music at Yale University. His oratorio 'Hora Novissima,' produced at New York in 1893, was given under his direction at Worcester (England) in 1899. Four years later he was again in Europe, when the third part of his 'Legend of St. Christopher' was performed at Worcester, and a few months later the whole work at Bristol.

PERFORMANCES NEXT WEEK.

SUN.	Concert, 3.30, Royal Albert Hall.
—	Sunday Concert Society, 5.30, Queen's Hall.
—	Ballad Concert, 7, Queen's Hall.
MON.	London Symphony Orchestra, 8, Queen's Hall.
TUE.	Royal Philharmonic Society, 8, Queen's Hall.
WED.	Classical Concert Society, 8, Bechstein Hall.
—	Royal Engineers' String Band, 8, Queen's Hall.
THUR.	Queen's Hall Orchestra, 8, Queen's Hall.

Dramatic Gossip.

MR. CELLIER AND FLORENCE GLOSSOP HARRIS have done well in presenting 'The Merchant of Venice' at the Prince's Theatre, and we trust their effort will meet with a better response than that of Monday afternoon. Their chief intention, we believe, is to provide Shakespeare representations for the benefit of schools, and the general arrangements, the staging, and the acting certainly fulfil that purpose, but without in any way detracting from the play itself.

Mr. Cellier gave a fine rendering of Shylock, and Florence Glossop Harris was attractive as Portia. Mr. Frank Cochrane extracted plenty of amusement from the part of Gratiano, and sang "Tell me where is Fancy bred" with much charm.

The other parts were generally well played and clearly delivered. Mr. Edward Montagu as the Prince of Morocco deserving special mention for his elocution.

'KING HENRY IV. (PART I.)' which was revived at His Majesty's Theatre last Saturday, is admirably suited to the temper of the public. Mr. Matheson Lang as the gallant Harry Hotspur was the hero of the evening. In a part which might easily have been exaggerated, he acted with a satirical humour and romantic fervour which displayed the graces, without hiding the faults, of one who "did all the chivalry of England move to do brave acts." Mr. Owen Nares was a high-spirited but slight figure as Prince Hal, and had an attractively impish shadow in the Poins of Mr. Charles Quartermaine.

Mr. Basil Gill acted the part of the King with quiet dignity, and Mr. Arthur Whitby was excellent as the unctuous Bardolph, Knight of the Burning Lamp. Sir Herbert Tree had not quite that exuberant joviality which is necessary to reconcile a modern audience to Falstaff's grossness. His mutilation of Hotspur's dead body might surely have been omitted from the last act.

There was a confusing mistake on the programme, where Act I. sc. v.—the dialogue between Hotspur and his wife in Warkworth Castle—was described as taking place in "a Room in the Palace."

H. J. BYRON's great success, 'Our Boys,' is now being produced at the Vaudeville, and Mr. Hawtrey will shortly revive 'A Message from Mars' at the Apollo. Such typical English pieces, if overlaid with sentiment, are certainly preferable to the French farces and musical comedies to which the harassed manager frequently resorts in days of stress.

CHRISTMAS is to have abundance of pantomimes in spite of the war. At Drury Lane there will be a revised edition of 'The Sleeping Beauty,' at the Lyceum 'Jack and the Beanstalk,' and at the Aldwych 'Cinderella.' 'The Cockyloidy Bird,' too, will resume its lively pranks at the Little Theatre.

IN cases where revision of a pantomime is being made, we hope that it will take the form of reduction. These performances are, as a rule, far too long for children, and too many episodes are introduced which have nothing to do with the story, though they may exhibit the powers of some music-hall comedian. We prefer the old-fashioned simple fun, which has no smart innuendo about it.

AN attractive announcement for the near future is the production of Mr. Hardy's 'Dynasts' at the Kingsway by Lillah

McCarthy and Mr. Granville Barker. Mr. Cecil Sharp is providing incidental music, and Mr. Hardy himself is assisting at the rehearsals, so that we may expect the local colour and dialect to be satisfactory.

REPORTS have told us that the Germans were laying claim to Shakespeare. A recent performance of 'Twelfth Night' at Leipsic emphasized that idea by some extra lines put into the mouth of the Fool, dwelling on England's decadence, and unworthiness, in view of recent events, to possess one of her chief glories.

Something outside Shakespeare's text was certainly needed, for the available quotations in his dramas are so apt as to be inept. 'The Merry Wives' supplies "The Germans desire to have three of your horses"; "Like three German devils, three Doctor Faustuses"; and "Do not say they be fled; Germans are honest men"; while '2 Henry IV.' mentions "The story of the Prodigal, or the German hunting in water-work." This last phrase would have pleased Furness, who held that Shakespeare was equal to any modern occasion.

THE death of Mr. Howard Russell, in his 80th year, will remind veteran playgoers of many a sensation at the old Victoria, where he began playing melodramatic parts in 1867. Later, at Drury Lane, he figured in more serious plays, acting the King to Fechter's Hamlet; but he was most effective in the Adelphi melodramas, where he shared the applause bestowed on the radiant William Terriss.

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Better an old man's darling
Black is the raven, black is the rook
Born of butchers, but of bishops bred
Build a bridge of gold
But for the grace of God there goes John
Bradford
But when shall we lay the ghost of the
brute?
Could a man be secure
Do the work that's nearest
Dutton slew Dutton
Ego sum Rex Romanus et supra gram-
maticam
Equal to either fate
Even the gods cannot alter the past
Fair Eve knelt close to the guarded gate
Fighting like devils for conciliation
From what small causes great events do
spring
Genius is a promontory jutting out into
the infinite
God called up from dreams
Great fleas have little fleas
Habacuc est capable de tout
He who knows not, and knows that he
knows not
Hempseed I sow

I counted two-and-seventy stenches
I shall pass through this world but once
Idols of the market-place
If lusty love should go in search of beauty
In marriage are two happy things allowed
In matters of commerce the fault of the
Dutch
Is he gone to a land of no laughter?
La vie est vaine
L'amour est l'histoire de la vie des femmes
Les beaux esprits se rencontrent
Love in phantastick triumph sat
Mr. Pillblister and Betsy his sister
Mon verre n'est pas grand, mais je bois
dans mon verre
Music of the spheres
Needles and pins, needles and pins
Nor think the doom of man reversed for
thee
O for a booke and a shadie nooke!
Oh tell me whence Love cometh
On entre, on crie
Pay all their debts with the roll of his drum
Pearls cannot equal the whiteness of his
teeth
Pitt had a great future behind him
Plus je connais les hommes
Popery, tyranny, and wooden shoes
Praises let Britons sing
Prefaces to books are like signs to public-
houses
Quam nihil ad genium
Quoth William Penn to Martyr Charles
Still like the hindmost chariot wheel is
cursed
Swayed by every wind that blows

The East bowed low before the blast
The farmers of Aylesbury gathered to dine
The hand that rocks the cradle
The heart two chambers hath
The King of France and forty thousand
men
The toad beneath the harrow knows
The virtue lies in the struggle
The world's a bubble
There are only two secrets a man cannot
keep
There is a lady sweet and kind
There is a sweetness in autumnal days
There is on earth a yet auguster thing
There is so much good in the worst of us
These are the Britons, a barbarous race
They say that war is hell, a thing accurst
This too shall pass away
Though lost to sight, to memory dear
Tire le rideau, la farce est jouée
To see the children sporting on the shore
Two men look out through the same bars
Two shall be born a whole wide world
apart
Upon the hills of Breedon
Vivit post funera virtus
Walking in style by the banks of the Nile
Warm summer sun, shine friendly here
What dire offence from am'rous causes
springs!
Wherever God erects a house of prayer
With equal good nature, good grace, and
good looks
Write me as one who loves his fellow-
men
Ye shepherds, tell me! Have you seen

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NOTES:—The Rev. John Kempthorne, D.D.—Holcroft Bibliography—Statues and Memorials in the British Isles—Spy shot at the Tower of London—Inscriptions at Cadenabbia—Sponge Cake—Vanishing City Landmarks—"Any": its Pronunciation—Dictum attributed to Lord Fisher—Dr. Edmond Halley's Ancestry.

QUERIES:—Modern Advocate of Druidism—Warrington: Poem Wanted—Author Wanted: "A man of the world"—William Parker, Lord Morley and Monteagle—"Hielanman! Hielanman!"—Murphy and Flynn—German Street-Names—Robert Leyborne—Bishop Henry Ryder—Biographical Information Wanted—Cotterell and its Variants—Dickens and Wooden Legs—Prints in 1837: "Protean Scenery"—Przemysl: Language of Galicia—Eighteenth-Century Marriages: Scotland and Ireland—"Table of Peace"—Old Etonians—Robinson of Hinton Abbey.

REPLIES:—Groom of the Stole—"Sparrowgrass"—"Kultur"—Author and Correct Version Wanted—Voltaire in London—Mourning Letter-Paper—Floral Emblems of Countries—"Mid-Keavel"—Periodicals published by Religious Houses—Rectors of Upham and Dursley—The Original of 'Aladdin'—Wilkes and Lord Thurlow—Earls of Derwentwater—Avanzino or Avanzini—De Bruxelles and d'Anvers—Walter Scott—Old Charing Cross—"Boches"—Gothic Mason-Sculptors—France and England Quarterly—Cross-legged Effigies—The Apocrypha: Story of Judith—"Brother Johannes"—Will of Mary Kinderley: Peter Pegge-Burnell—"Chickseed without Chickweed."

NOTES ON BOOKS:—"The Titled Nobility of Europe"—"Berkeley and Perceval"—"The Scottish Historical Review."

LAST WEEK'S NUMBER (November 14) CONTAINS—

NOTES:—Yesterdays in Old Edinburgh—Inscriptions in the Ancien Cimetière, Mentone—William Browne, Vitalis, and Apuleius—Words in Thomas Lodge's 'Wits Miserie'—"Wearie verie meanes." 'As You Like It'—Wordsworth and 'The Cambridge History of English Literature'—Memorial to Spurgeon—"Daud"—George—"Deratization"—Thos. Holcroft: the Countess de Marsac—"Forlorn Hope"—Skirmishers.

QUERIES:—The Greek Church in London—Bismarck on the Eastern Question—Quotation from Froissart—Inscription on Brass at Queen's College, Oxford—Inscription at Durham—"Cambo Britannicus"—Old Pistol Maker—Authors of Quotations Wanted—Manuscript Diary of Francis Lynn—Biographical Information Wanted—The Height of St. Paul's—Old Etonians—Jane Austen and Columella—The Germans—Complete Versions Wanted—Sir Thomas Bernard, Bart.: Francis E. Paget—Pierce Power—Heart locked with a Key—Vanished London—Trees in Moorfields—"Magna est veritas"—Cardiff Newspapers—Author Wanted—Chatsworth—The Apocrypha: Story of Judith—Thomas Skottowe—"Conquest of Canterbury Court"—Anthony Herenden—William Philips.

REPLIES:—Dene-holes—"Private Hotels"—Frederick Family of Old Jewry—Rumney Diggle and Leonora Frederick—Helmet worn at Flodden Field—Fielding: Sack and "the usual words"—Latin Jingles—Adelaide Procter's Mother—Walter Scott—History of England with Riming Verses—"Cordwainer"—Seventh Child of a Seventh Child—Ozias Humphry—"Mr. B-ck" and "Black D"—Lamb's 'Mr. H.—'—Thomas Arrowsmith, Artist—Elkanah Settle—Law against cutting Ash Trees—Use of Military Titles—France and England Quarterly—Poets' Birthplaces—Magistrates wearing Hats—Dunstable Larks—Sir Thomas Browne and his Books—"Brother Johannes"—Place-Names: Shraps, Thrunge.

NOTES ON BOOKS:—"The Bayeux Tapestry"—The John Rylands Bulletin—"Bruges"—"A Social History of Ancient Ireland"—"Book-Prices Current"—"Miscellanea Genealogica"—"The Burlington Booksellers' Catalogues."

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For the information of our readers, we give below a short list of our reviews on books which throw a light on the present situation and its impending developments.

	<u>GERMANY</u>	<u>DATE</u> <u>OF REVIEW</u>	<u>SINGLE COPIES CONTAINING</u> <u>REVIEW, POST FREE</u>
Pan-Germanism, by Ronald G. Usher		April 26, 1913	6½d.
Correspondence Relating to the Above		May 31, 1913	6½d.
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	<u>THE BRITISH NAVY</u>		
Naval Strategy, by Capt. A. T. Mahan		Feb. 12, 1910	6½d.
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What of the Navy? by Alan H. Burgoyne		Sept. 13, 1913	6½d.
Sea, Land, and Air Strategy, by Sir George Aston		Aug. 15, 1914	9½d.
Ocean Trading and Shipping, by Douglas Owen		May 16, 1914	9½d.
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The Foundations of Strategy, by Capt. H. M. Johnstone		Aug. 22, 1914	9½d.
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Editorial Communications should be addressed to "THE EDITOR"—Advertisements and Business Letters to "THE ATHENÆUM" OFFICE, Bream's Buildings, Chancery Lane, E.C.
Published Weekly by Messrs. MORRIS MARSHALL & SON, 125, Fleet Street, London, E.C., and Printed by J. EDWARD FRANCIS, Athenæum Press, Bream's Buildings, Chancery Lane, London E.C.
Agents for Scotland, Messrs. WILLIAM GREEN & SONS and JOHN MENZIES & CO., Ltd., Edinburgh.—Saturday, November 21, 1914.